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SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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CONTENTS

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Conference Pledges Aid for Refugees (WEST AFRICA, 20 Apr 81).....	1
Zaire, De Beers Negotiating on Diamond Sales (THE CITIZEN, 1 May 81).....	3
Frontline States Youth Organization Planned (DAILY NEWS, 23 Apr 81).....	4
Eastern, Southern Africa Mineral Center Seeks More Foreign Aid (DAILY NEWS, 23 Apr 81).....	5
Briefs	
SWAPO Official Praises Tanzania	6
EEC-ACP Talks	6
News Service Delay	7

BENIN

Problems Persist Despite Educational Reform (Patti Waldmeir; WEST AFRICA, 20 Apr 81).....	8
Briefs	
Public Safety Forces	10

GHANA

NUGS Protests Against General Situation at 17th Congress (GHANAIAN TIMES, 20, 22 Apr 81).....	11
Government, Transitionals Blamed Parliamentary Democracy a 'Charade'	
Reasons for Increased Budget Deficit (WEST AFRICA, 20 Apr 81).....	13

Danish Partners Threaten Pull-out From Dairy Project (Geoffrey Barber; GHANAIAN TIMES, 14 Apr 81).....	14
Indian, Czechoslovak Companies' Interest in Firestone (DAILY GRAPHIC, 11 Apr 81).....	16
Limann Government Urged To Go From Words to Action (Editorial; DAILY GRAPHIC, 20 Apr 81).....	18
Briefs	
Youth in Agriculture	19
Chinese-Assisted Rice Project	19
Volta Region Electrification	19
Increased Oil Refinery Output	20
Japanese Transportation Grant	20
South Korean Agricultural Donation	20
British Mining, Agriculture Loan	20
NAMIBIA	
SWAPO Democrats Assert Position (WINDHOEK OBSERVER, 16 Apr 81).....	21
SEYCHELLES	
Reportage on Basic Trade Union Seminar (NATION, 21-24 Apr 81).....	23
Building Socialism	
Eradicate Capitalism	
Third World Industrialization	
Greater Worker Participation	
Twenty-Three New Branch Committees Elected (NATION, 20 Apr 81).....	28
Soviet Admiration of President, People Reported (NATION, 18 Apr 81).....	32
Friendship Movement With Sweden Confirmed (NATION, 23 Apr 81).....	34
Milan Tourist Office Inaugurated (NATION, 20 Apr 81).....	35
Change in Law Proposed To Help the Elderly (NATION, 22 Apr 81).....	37
Government Cuts Consumer Prices (NATION, 22 Apr 81).....	38

Briefs	
Soviet Space Exhibit	40
SOMALIA	
Commentary Stresses Identity of Views With Kenya (HEEGAN, 10 Apr 81).....	41
SOUTH AFRICA	
Thebehali Escapes Uninjured in Handgrenade Explosion (Lawrence Mayekiso; THE CITIZEN, 8 May 81).....	42
New PAC Chairman Pokela Interviewed (DAILY NEWS, 27 Apr 81).....	44
President's Council Member Worrall Discusses Alternatives (THE CITIZEN, 5 May 81).....	47
AZAPO Claims Success in Entertainers Boycott (Sam Mabe; SOWETAN, 22 Apr 81).....	48
Reportage on Labor Developments (Various sources, various dates).....	50
End of Sigma Strike, by Norman Ngale	
Refusal to Register	
Mbuvelo Comment on Industrial Bill, Editorial	
Year 2000 Employment Prediction	
Criticism of Training Programs, by Keith Abendroth	
Cities' Cost of Living for Blacks, Coloreds Compared (Marilyn Cohen; THE CITIZEN, 7 May 81).....	55
HNP Begins Organizing for Next Election (Jaap Theron; THE CITIZEN, 5 May 81).....	56
Durban Substation Saboteurs Arrested in Lesotho (Johan Kloppers; THE CITIZEN, 8 May 81).....	57
Steel Industry Suffers From Shortage of Technologists (Gordon Knowler; THE CITIZEN, 4 May 81).....	58
De Beers Expected To Reduce Diamond Sales (Adam Payne; RAND DAILY MAIL, 29 Apr 81).....	59
Reportage, Comment on Economy, Finance (Various sources, various dates).....	60
Bank Rate Increase, by Dan de Kock	
Government Financial Strategy, by Daan de Kock	
Past Year's Budget Surplus, by Harold Fridjhon	

Inflation Rate Predictions, by Daan de Kock
 Further Discussion of Inflation, by John Mulcahy
 Milk, Gasoline Price Increases, by Keith Abendroth
 'DIE BURGER' Comment,
 'DIE VADERLAND' Comment

Briefs

Suspected Rail Line Sabotage	68
Transvaal Colored Education	68
Muslim Meeting	68
Robben Island Release	69
Refusal of Passport	69
Black Housing Project	69
Refusal of Mandela Interview	69
Church Criticism of Dutch	70
Mine Deaths	70
Diamond Trade With Taiwan	70
Toyota Share of Market	70
Local Production Underground Cable	71
Seekor Oil Drillhole	71
Protection of Installations	71

TANZANIA

TPDC Attempting To Ensure Equitable Fuel Distribution (Emma Faraji; DAILY NEWS, 24 Apr 81).....	72
Critical Water Shortage Affecting Zanzibar City Now Over (DAILY NEWS, 24 Apr 81).....	73
Wazo Hill Asbestos Plant Starts Trial Production (DAILY NEWS, 23 Apr 81).....	74

UPPER VOLTA

Administration Curbs Labor Emigration (WEST AFRICA, 6 Apr 81).....	75
-----------------------------------------------------------------------	----

ZIMBABWE

PM Says Workers Will Share Industry Profits (THE HERALD, 2 May 81).....	77
Profit Sharing Sought, by Gilbert Mawarire Workers Have a Vital Role--Kangai Manyika Urges Unity To Fight Exploitation in Partnership, Editorial	
Nkala Says Chiefs Must Shun Politics (Bulawayo: THE HERALD, 4 May 81).....	80

Reportage on Success of Trade Fair	
(THE HERALD, 2, 4 May 81).....	81
President Impressed	
Fair Chairman Says Orders Will Top Last Year's	
CZI President Says Trade Boost on the Way	
Business Orders Up	
Success Hailed, Editorial	
Minimum Wage Too Low, Says Union Official	
(Bulawayo; THE HERALD, 2 May 81).....	85
PM Promises Crackdown on Prices	
(THE HERALD, 2 May 81).....	86
Briefs	
Healers Form Rival Body	87
Census Set for 1982	87
Merchant Navy	87

CONFERENCE PLEDGES AID FOR REFUGEES

London WEST AFRICA in English 20 Apr 81 p 849

[Text] John Madeley reports from Geneva on a special conference organised by the OAU and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees that received pledges of \$560m. to aid the refugees of Africa.

A SPECIAL conference to publicise the serious refugee crisis in Africa and raise money for the estimated 5m. Africans who have become refugees, received pledges of \$560m. (£257m.) from 45 governments in Geneva last week.

The conference, organised by the OAU and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, had aimed to raise \$500m. for the refugees' immediate needs, so that target was exceeded. But the money pledged falls a long way short of the \$1.2bn. which is estimated to be needed for the complete rehabilitation of the refugees.

The holding of this conference helped to alert the world to the fact that the refugee crisis in Africa is far more serious than has been acknowledged — worse even than the Asian boat people crisis two years ago.

Seventy journalists from many different countries came to Geneva for the two-day gathering and there can be few parts of the world which can now claim that they are not aware of Africa's refugee problem — which can fairly be described as the worst refugee crisis since 1945.

Over half Africa's refugees are victims of the various conflicts in the Horn of Africa — although Nigeria has an estimated 110,000 people and Cameroon 266,000 people who have fled from the fighting in Chad. In the Horn of Africa, Somalia has at least 1.5m. refugees many of whom are living in desperate conditions. With a native population of only 3.7m., Somalia can barely cope with the influx of people mostly from Ethiopia.

The irony of Africa's refugees crisis is that in the main the people who have fled their homelands have sought refuge in countries which are among the continent's poorest. The Sudan has received an estimated 490,000 refugees, Zaire 400,000 and Burundi 234,000: all are countries with very severe economic problems of their own.

In an opening statement to the conference, President Siaka Stevens of Sierra Leone, the OAU chairman, said, that refugees existed because of man's inhumanity to man. President Stevens recently visited refugee camps in Somalia and he reminded delegates that when they were thinking about refugees, then they might well declare "there goes myself but for the Grace of God".

This was a moving reminder that anyone can become a refugee; a person's race or religion can be enough.

When Secretary General of the UN, Dr. Kurt Waldheim, wound up the conference, he said that he was more than satisfied with the results and that a solid basis had been laid for the future. Dr. Peter Onu of the OAU said that African states were satisfied at the outcome but he added that it was a pity that some countries had not attended. (The Eastern European countries had been conspicuous by their absence.) Dr. Onu said the conference had been a humanitarian exercise which warranted the support of everyone.

Over half the money raised came from the United States. Their representative, Mrs. Jeane Kirkpatrick, said that President Reagan was "deeply moved" by the suffering of Africa's refugees and "desired to express in a compelling fashion the solidarity of the US government and the American people".

In total, the US pledged \$285m. which is to be spread over 1981 and 1982. Mrs. Kirkpatrick said that \$126.5m. of the money would go to the UNHCR and the Red Cross; \$80m. would go in food aid; \$65m. in a form as yet unspecified and \$11m. would be available to help African refugees who wished to settle in the United States. She felt that up to around 3,800 refugees might this year be helped to resettle in the United States.

This "resettlement fund" turned out to be controversial. Overwhelmingly, African countries have made it clear that the solution to Africa's refugee problem lies in removing the causes of tension on the continent, thus enabling refugees to return to their own country should they wish. Many African delegates in Geneva therefore felt uneasy about the US proposal and the UN High Commissioner, Mr. Poul Hartling, said that the UNHCR are not encouraging resettlement of refugees in third countries.

Other Western countries were far less generous than the United States. France made a paltry contribution of \$2.47m. while Britain did slightly better with \$13.86m. As France and Britain were partly responsible for the artificial drawing of boundaries on the African continent in the 19th century — a factor which is still one of the causes of the refugee problem today — somewhat larger contributions might have been expected. The European Economic Community did however pledge \$68m., two-thirds of this will come from the European Development Fund and the remaining one-third will go in food aid.

Contributions from the oil-rich countries were also disappointing. Saudi Arabia pledged \$30m. but that was the only OPEC money of any significance.

One big question hung over all the pledges — how much was "new money", and how much was committed to the refugees before the conference started?

Close examination of the figures revealed that probably around two-thirds of the \$560m. pledged had been committed beforehand and would have gone to the refugees anyway. The actual staging of the conference therefore raised, not \$560m., but only about a third of that amount. The United States contribution is not nearly as large as it sounds. Probably 70 per cent of the \$285m. US pledge was already in the pipeline; only 30 per cent is new money.

Nonetheless the "new money" will be important. Mr Hartling made it clear that the UNHCR now has the finance it needs for its 1981 programme. Mr. Hartling also commended Nigeria for the speed with which it handed over its pledge to the refugees. The Nigerian government pledged \$3m. to the conference on its first day and handed over the money on the second day. Mr. Hartling said that he hoped all countries would follow the excellent Nigerian example. Alhaji Ali Baba, Nigeria's Minister of State for External Affairs, said when handing over the cheque that the money was "a token of brotherhood" to fellow Africans.

Whilst the money raised at the conference should help to alleviate some of the immediate sufferings of the refugees, the underlying causes of the problem remain. It was not the job of this conference to seek necessary political solutions but several speakers made the point that more needs to be done in search of those solutions.

Mr. Jama Mohamed Ghalib, the Minister in charge of refugees in Somalia, stressed that whilst the conference had proved worthwhile, "a political solution" to the problem was needed, including the withdrawal of all external forces from the Horn. "We regret to say," he said, "that the international community has not seriously addressed itself to the problem of finding a political solution."

Dr. Waldheim agreed that a political solution was needed and said the UN was making efforts to solve the problem, but he added that such solutions depended on the willingness of countries to co-operate together.

As Mr. Omer Y. Birde of the Sudan stressed, "it is better to prevent than to cure and the preventative approach should be to stop the problem arising".

ZAIRE, DE BEERS NEGOTIATING ON DIAMOND SALES

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 1 May 81 p 25

[Text]

LONDON. — Negotiations between De Beers Consolidated Mines' Central Selling Organisation (CSO) and Zaire to renew the contract whereby the CSO markets Zaire's official diamond output are anticipated to resume in May, a De Beers spokesman said in answer to an enquiry.

He confirmed UK Press reports that the CSO, which markets more than 80 per cent of world diamond production, has been negotiating with Sozacom, the Zaire state mineral agency, and MIBA, the country's major producer of diamonds.

In February 1980 Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko said Sozacom should assume responsibility for marketing all Zaire's minerals, the spokesman noted.

On April 2 this year, a Presidential ordinance decreed Sozacom's assumption of responsibility would take effect immediately, but it was allowed to choose between new agreements with existing partners or its own arrangements, he added.

Zaire's overall output of gem stones and industrial diamonds is officially reported to have fallen to 8,1-million carats in 1980 from a 13,5-million carat high in 1974, and a further fall is expected this year, he said. — Reuter.

FRONTLINE STATES YOUTH ORGANIZATION PLANNED

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 23 Apr 81 p 1

[Text]

A FRONTLINE States' youth body is expected to be launched at a meeting bringing together representatives of the States' youth organisation in Luanda in the second week of June this year, it was learnt in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

This follows the two-day talks between officials of the Tanzania Youth Organisation and an Assistant Secretary-General for International Relations of the Angola youth movement (JMPLA), Ndugu Eduardo Ruus Manuel, which ended in Dar es Salaam yesterday morning.

The body will bring together youths from Tanzania, Mozambique, Angola, Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia.

A spokesman of the Tanzania Youth Organisation said after the talks that youth leaders from these countries would be meeting bi-annually, with the venue rotating among the Frontline States.

He added that it had been agreed that the youth body would have an active secretariat provided by the hosting country.

"The convening country will form the co-ordinating secretariat whenever the meetings are held", he said.

He said the frequency of the meetings had been decided in light of the current pressing issues of the liberation struggle in Southern Africa, particularly the Namibian Question.

It has also been agreed that youth organisations from the Frontline States would consult before attending any international meeting so that they present their case on Southern Africa with a stronger force and in unity, he said.

The talks, he added, emphasised the strengthening of bilateral relations between the youth movements in the region.

CSO: 4420/993

EASTERN, SOUTHERN AFRICA MINERAL CENTER SEEKS MORE FOREIGN AID

Daf -e Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 23 Apr 81 p 3

[Text] SEVEN countries and two organisations have agreed to provide financial and material assistance to the Dodoma-based Eastern and Southern Africa Mineral Resources Development Centre.

The centre's Director General, Ndugu M.M. Shumburo from Ethiopia told *Shamba* last weekend that Sweden, the USSR, India, Italy, Belgium, Japan, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the European Economic Community (EEC) had agreed to assist the centre.

Officials of the centre are approaching donor countries and international organisations for specific requests after the donors have responded favourably to an appeal by the centre for assistance. The UNDP is the biggest donor so far.

The appeal for assistance was once again made at the opening session of a third meeting of donors by the chairman of the centre's governing council Ndugu John Malecela in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on March 13 this year.

Ndugu Shumburo said that at the Addis Ababa meeting last month Sweden pledged to support the centre and that the documents prepared for this purpose were sent to Stockholm for that country's government to determine the type of assistance to be given.

India offered about 1 million/- while Italy is to provide two experts for a period of two years.

The Soviet Union, he said, agreed to offer scholarships for the training of personnel to serve at the centre. At the moment the Soviet Union is providing 30 scholarships annually to the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and some of these could be utilised by the centre.

In addition, the Soviet Union has plans to donate valuable equipment to the centre, Ndugu Shumburo said.

He also said that Belgium had promised to continue supporting the centre. Belgium has been assisting the centre since its establishment in 1979. Belgium has made financial contributions of about 2.3 million/-.

Under a bilateral aid programme to the centre, three experts one each from

the Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium and Japan, have arrived in the country to join four others from the UNDP and three from participating member states — Tanzania, Uganda and Ethiopia.

The council also thanked donor countries for their immediate and prompt response to assist the centre. The officials from the 15 member states expressed confidence that further assistance would be forthcoming from donor countries after studying the contents of the documents sent to them.

Meanwhile, a special request has been sent to the EEC to provide equipment and to construct office buildings. Designs for the centres office buildings have been drawn and actual construction is expected to start late this year or early 1982.

The buildings include an administrative block, a library and a documentation unit, a conference room, laboratories and a hostel. The buildings are expected to cost 50 million/-.

BRIEFS

SWAPO OFFICIAL PRAISES TANZANIA--Tanzania's backing for the Namibian struggle was now bearing fruits, a member of the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) Central Committee, Ndugu Lucas Pohamba, said in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. He told a packed hall at the Institute of Adult Education to mark the 21st anniversary of the founding of the organisation, that SWAPO recalled with a deep sense of humility and appreciation the fact that it was from Dar es Salaam that they launched the campaign to put Namibia on the international political map. He said SWAPO combatants, in the face of difficulties, had waged a protracted armed resistance "which is today bearing fruits on the soil of Namibia". Said Ndugu Pohamba: "We have absolute confidence, in turn, of final victory over the forces of colonialism, racism and imperialist reaction. And for this I wish to restate our undying gratitude to the Party, Government and the people of this great nation, who have never wavered when it came to giving support to those who are struggling for their national independence". Turning to the situation inside Namibia, he said despite the scant coverage which the struggle received in the international press, there was not a single day that went by without blood being shed on the country's soil. Tuesday's meeting was also addressed by Ndugu Trai Massango, the Zimbabwe High Commissioner in Dar es Salaam on behalf of African ambassadors, Ambassador Oscar Padilla of the Republic of Cuba on behalf of the socialist countries, Ambassador David Wirmark of Sweden on behalf of the Nordic countries, and African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) representative Reddy Mazimba. CCM was represented by Ambassador Felimon Murro, a Party headquarters official. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 23 Apr 81 p 3]

EEC-ACP TALKS--During the meeting of ministers from the European Common Market and the African-Caribbean-Pacific countries who are signatories to the Lome II convention, Mr. Claude Cheysson, the EEC's commissioner for economic development, offered an estimate that the fall in raw material prices last year, because of a world-wide slackening in economic activity, had reduced the income of the ACP countries by \$1,200m. He said that the increase in oil prices had added about the same sum to the ACP countries' import bills. The meeting, which was the first under the new Lome II agreement between the EEC and the ACP countries, appears not to have produced any very firm results. The EEC has agreed to study an ACP application to include more products--tobacco, citrus fruit and sisal--in the Stabex scheme to reduce the effects of shortfalls in export earnings. The EEC also agreed to joint studies on an ACP demand for preferential access to the European Community's food surpluses. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 20 Apr 81 p 884]

NEWS SERVICE DELAY--Only a third of the member countries have paid their dues to the Dakar-based Pan African News Agency (PANA) which was set up two years ago. PANA's Director-General, Mr. Ousmane Cheikh Diallo, urged African states to pay their dues and ratify the agreement on its establishment by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in April 1979. The agreement has not yet been ratified by a single one of its 48 OAU member states and only one in three has paid its dues, according to usually well-informed sources. The news agency was due to start operating in July 1980, but lack of proper telecommunications equipment and qualified staff has so far delayed the launching of its news service. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 20 Apr 81 p 869]

CRO: 4420/1001

PROBLEMS PERSIST DESPITE EDUCATIONAL REFORM

London WEST AFRICA in English 20 Apr 81 pp 072-073

[Article by Patti Waldmeir]

[Text] ALONG the beach road from Cotonou to Lomé, near Benin's border with Togo, stand four make-shift straw huts put up earlier this year by villagers to house their new secondary school. All over Benin, similar schools are going up in a massive effort to extend primary and secondary education to as many as possible of the republic's 3.3 million people.

In June, 1975, President Mathieu Kerekou's Marxist-Leninist Government promulgated a National Educational Reform Law meant to revolutionise the structure of education from primary through to post-graduate level, and to raise the percentage of primary school age children in school from 41.5 per cent in 1974 to 61.3 per cent in 1983.

By the end of the 1979/80 academic year, primary schools were educating 40.6 per cent of school-age children, quite an achievement for a country where 50 per cent of the rural population is estimated to live below the absolute poverty level as defined by the World Bank. Secondary school enrolment was up 60 per cent in 1980 over 1977.

The aim of the 1975 reform was, however, only partly to increase absolute numbers in school. Benin's radical educationalists saw the reform as integrally related to what they called the 'global transformation' of their society along the path of socialism chosen by Colonel Kerekou some six years ago.

A programme of reforms partially financed by UNDP (\$1.7m over six years) was instituted to change the heavily urban orientation of the educational system inherited from the French. The reformers argued the importance of training students in skills suited to life in a rural environment

in a country where 85 per cent of the population remains in the traditional sector. They hoped to discourage urban drift by preparing rural students for integration into the traditional community rather than permanently alienating them from it.

To achieve these goals, the educational system has been altered since 1975 in various ways, with varying degrees of success. The schools curriculum has been radically changed. Each school has been designated a 'productive unit' with students being required to engage in three to four hours of co-operative productive or commercial activity each week. Students co-operatives produce and market a wide range of goods from vegetables and local foodstuffs, to craft articles such as traditional batiques and appliques. They even organise sports matches and charge a handsome entrance fee to meet their production quota.

'Ideology' is now taught in the schools, with a heavy emphasis on Marxism-Leninism and 'civic and moral instruction'. Primary school students receive only about one hour per week of 'ideological instruction' but by sixth-form level all students study 'philosophy' for roughly one hour per day. The aim of the ideology course is to begin teaching students at primary level how to orient their 'social behaviour' toward achievement of the goals of Beninese socialism.

Teacher training has also been de-centralised, with the construction of one new teacher-training college in each of the country's six regions. Teacher trainees now receive 'civic' and 'military', as well as traditional 'pedagogical' instruction.

To staff the many new schools built since 1975, a system of "national service" for university students has been introduced. After completing their second year at university, students are sent to teach for one year in rural secondary schools. Even so, the Beninese have had to fall back on a large number of "pupil teachers" — secondary school graduates with no university education — to maintain adequate staffing levels. And as of next year, reliance on pupil teachers will increase as it has been decided that university students should complete their national service before entering university, to avoid disruption of their degree course after the second year.

Critics of the reform argue that despite the impressive increase in school enrolment — the educational system has more than kept pace with the country's relatively high per annum population growth rate of 2.8 per cent — there is a yawning gap between the theory and practice of the reforms.

One of the biggest barriers to a true reform of the educational system is the difficulty of obtaining text books in a country with little foreign exchange to purchase them, and few printing presses of its own to produce them.

Flagging morale is also a problem. Teachers say they find it hard to maintain their commitment to the reforms when the wage they receive (roughly 30,000 CFA per month for a primary school teacher) is barely sufficient to live on. Pupil teachers, who receive only 55 per cent of this salary and very little training in the new educational methods, have even less incentive to follow the reforms to the letter.

Inadequate pay is said to have motivated an exodus of teachers to Niger, where salaries are two and a half times higher. Though the government promised in January of this year to look into ways of

improving the teachers' lot, most likely by raising salaries, no pay rise had been implemented by the end of March. Said one teacher: "If they don't raise our salaries soon they will sabotage the whole reform programme."

Primary school teachers are also unhappy about a decision taken by the government just before Christmas to force them to join a single trade union, the Syndicat National de l'Enseignement de Base (SYNEMB). Previously, teachers had had a choice of union representation. Yet when some members of the old unions protested at the government's move, they were arrested and detained.

The students' commitment to the reforms is said to lag even further behind the teachers. As the profile of a university entrant demanded by the University of Benin (Cotonou) has not been significantly altered in line with the reforms, ambitious students tend to prefer the conventional curriculum. As an examination cover conventional subjects and not "productive activity", students often avoid this aspect of their schoolwork.

The reformers have also reported conflicts with local artisans and traders, who dislike the direct competition of the students for a share in a limited local market.

By far the most common complaint, however, is that educational standards have declined as a result of the reforms. Older Beninese argue that Benin's citizens, once among the best educated in Francophone Africa, are now being refused entrance to the continent's better universities. But Benin's radical reformers can hardly be expected to bemoan the disappearance of a tiny educated elite, a casualty in the progress toward universal primary education in Benin.

BENIN

BRIEFS

PUBLIC SAFETY FORCES--First Djidja, Corve and Glazoue; now, the rural district of Bante in the province of Zou in turn has gotten a brigade of public safety forces. The installation ceremony took place on Monday, 13 April, at Bante. In attendance were Zou province secretary general Zime Mako Boni and Zou public safety forces company commander Ernest Ahouannougan who was standing in for the public safety forces chief of staff. There were also several political, administrative and military officials. As in other districts the various speeches on this occasion dealt with an explanation of the function and the value of a public safety forces brigade and the people were called upon to cooperate with the brigade's officers. [Text] [Cotonou EHUZU in French 23 Apr 81 p 1]

CSO: 4400/1150

NUGS PROTESTS AGAINST GENERAL SITUATION AT 17TH CONGRESS

Government, Transitionals Blamed

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 20 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] The National Union of Ghana Students (NUGS) has noted a serious deterioration in all aspects of national life with the national economy "aggravated by the dirty activities of transnational corporations."

This was contained in the national secretariat report to the 17th congress of NUGS taking place at Legon and signed by its president, Mr Philip Gardiner.

The report noted that the entire national machinery was grinding to a halt because of the presence of obsolete technology which needed to be replaced or overhauled and frequent water shortage and breakdown in equipment.

The report also noted the absence of a serious policy to eliminate hunger, poverty, starvation, disease, unemployment, the mass exodus of the forces of production and skilled manpower.

Workers' agitations in recent times, the report said, indicated their loss of confidence, in bourgeois democracy. It regretted the lack of reorganization of sanitation and health which, it said, was exemplified by the deterioration in public hospitals and unmotorable roads to facilitate the carting of foodstuffs.

The report said that the recent gold find and the nature and contributions of certain key figures in the ruling apparatus "is one of the most shameful collaborations of the neo-colonial states as allies of international imperialism.

"And the continued silence over our oil resources and how much is taken away is a clear indication of the policy to back the plunder of our natural resources by transnational corporations," the report said.

Opening the congress, Mr Philip Gardiner, president of NUGS urged the Government to implement what he called progressive ideas.

Parliamentary Democracy a 'Charade'

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 22 Apr 81 p 3

[Text] The National Union of Ghana Students (NUGS) had observed that the return to parliamentary democracy in Ghana has not opened the way for the broad masses of the people to participate in the decisionmaking process in the political, economic and social spheres of the country.

On the contrary, noted the NUGS, "constitutional and parliamentary democracy had become exposed as a charade whereby small minorities of the propertied classes represented by the existing political parties and in the service of imperialism and its transnational corporations have imposed their will on the working people in the midst of deprivation and abject misery."

These were contained in a communique issued yesterday at the end of the 17th annual congress of the NUGS held at the University of Ghana Legon.

The NUGS criticized the Government's economic policies and the investment code, saying "these are old and ineffective policies that have been tried in the past with disastrous effects and constitute nothing more than an open surrender of the economy and national sovereign to the transnational corporations without any benefit to the nation."

The communique urged the NUGS to actively contribute to the mass struggles of the people by assisting in political education, mobilization and organization of the working people in the struggle against imperialism.

The NUGS further called on the entire Ghanaian students movement to redouble their efforts in contributing their share to the peoples struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid and zionism and for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

CSO: 4420

REASONS FOR INCREASED BUDGET DEFICIT

London WEST AFRICA in English 20 Apr 81 p 894

(Text)

The 1980/81 Budget estimates were based on data now considered unreliable, according to the Parliamentary Finance Committee. It was because of the need to revise the budget deficit upwards that the government decided to float a G 2.1bn loan issue in the event after considerable debate. Parliament voted to approve a float of G 2.1bn, a reduction of G 62.5m on the government's original request. The government had planned to provide G 1,853.4m for finance, budget and monitoring expenditure, G 10m for the Electoral Commission and G 261.3m for the loans account. Under the compromise reached in Parliament, G 62.5m was pruned from a total of G 1,915.9m which the government had intended to use to underwrite the losses of certain state corporations, including the State Shipping Corporation, the State Farms Corporation and the Ghana Oil Development Corporation.

The chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr J. S. A. Hyde (PNP, Obom), gave a breakdown of the revised deficit in his report to Parliament. The price of cocoa, Ghana's main foreign exchange earner, had fallen from 12,200 per tonne in 1979 to

10,000 at a time when there was a sharp increase in the operational costs of the Cocoa Marketing Board. These he explained, rose by 38 per cent from G 2.267m in 1979/80, to G 3.131m in 1980/81. Moreover, the government was forced to make up the difference between the cost per tonne of cocoa, G 7,131, and the average world market price per tonne, G 6,700.

Revenue from taxes on domestic products and services was expected to amount to G 1,884.3m, which fell short of the original estimate of G 2,108.5m by G 444.2m. A large proportion of the import licences issued were not used, thus accounting for the low revenue from import duties. Duties collected in the half-year up to December 1980, amounted to G 200m. The figure for the year as a whole was expected to fall short of the G 700m estimate by approximately G 100m. Air travel tax was still being held by the airlines. Ghana Airways was known to be holding G 14m in foreign exchange which was due to the government. And above all, Mr Hyde explained, the cost of implementing the G 12 minimum wage had yet to be precisely determined.

GHANA

DANISH PARTNERS THREATEN PULL-OUT FROM DAIRY PROJECT

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 14 Apr 81 pp 1, 3

[Article by Geoffrey Barber]

[Text] Jensen Cattle A/S, the Danish partners in the £86.4 million (57,700,000 deutsche mark) Kwahu Dairy Project, are alleged to be threatening to pull out of the project for what they describe as Ghana Government's inability to honour its part of the contract.

The Danish partners are also alleged to have threatened to claim 5,041,665 deutsche marks as damages from the Government from breach of contract.

Investigations carried out by the 'Times' revealed that owing to the Government's alleged inability to finance its part of the project, the Danish company undertook, in June 1980, to arrange for a soft loan from the Kuwait Fund for the Government.

Loan Application

Repayment of the loan was to be spread over for 15 years, with four percent interest, after a five-year grace period. It is, however, reliably learned that to date, nothing has been heard from the Government concerning the loan application.

The foreign partners are also alleged to be claiming that since the dissolution of project's board of directors, no attempt has been made to reconstitute it, a factor which has contributed to the delay in the implementation of the project.

At a meeting held on March 19, this year between officials of the Ministry of Economic Planning and representatives of Jensen Cattle, the foreign partners were alleged to have been told that their share in the project was too small to which Jensen Cattle was reported to have offered new terms for the project.

Under the new terms, the Ghana Government would be required to submit the application for the loan from the Kuwait Fund, through the Jensen representatives to ensure that the application was processed before the Kuwait Fund board members proceeded on recess in May, this year.

When contacted, a top official of the Ministry of Economic Planning confirmed that the Jensen representatives had been told that the terms of the contract were not in the interest of the country.

According to him, another proposal would be submitted to the Danish partners by the Government to replace the present agreement.

The first agreement on the project was signed by the erstwhile Supreme Military Council government in 1976.

With the change of government, work on the project came to a standstill for some time.

When the PNP Government came into power it agreed to honour Ghana's part of the contract.

Already, £600,000 has been spent towards the upkeep of the Jensen representatives who have been in the country since 1978.

CSO: 4420

INDIAN, CZECHOSLOVAK COMPANIES' INTEREST IN FIRESTONE

Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 11 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] A number of foreign tyre manufacturing companies have declared their interest in the assets of Firestone Tyre Company in Ghana which is in the process of being acquired by the government.

Two such companies are Modi Tyre Company of India and the Czechoslovakia Government.

Michelin Tyre Company of France which had earlier showed interest in the project however, pulled out because there were too many competitors.

A top official of the Ministry of Industries, Science and Technology, who disclosed this to me in Accra yesterday, said Firestone International had offered its shares in the company to the Ghana Government at the cost of £86 million.

The Government, the source said, set up a technical committee which went into the modalities of the take-over and valued the assets of Firestone International at £22 million.

However, a report on the issue was referred to a Cabinet Sub-Committee after Cabinet had scrutinized it.

Recommendations to be made by this subcommittee will be referred to the Public Agreements Review Committee (PARC) for approval before the government commits itself to pay-off Firestone International.

The source disclosed that if the Government decided to pay-off the debt, the American government would pay the dollar component to Firestone International Incorporated whilst Ghana pays the Cedi equivalent to the American Government.

The source further disclosed that the Government was currently negotiating with Firestone International for technical assistance from now until the phasing out of their technology when the incoming company would introduce its own technology in the processing and manufacturing of latex into tyres.

Representatives of Firestone International are expected in the country by the middle of next month to finalize the transfer arrangements.

The government recently, took over the operations of Firestone when it was realized that the staff of the company had made certain valid allegations against the expatriate staff of the company.

Later, Firestone International met the government and after discussions, decided to offer its shares for sale.

The Ghana Government declared its intention to buy the shares after a valuation had been carried out on the machinery and technological aspects of the company.

CS0: 4420

LIMANN GOVERNMENT URGED TO GO FROM WORDS TO ACTION

Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 20 Apr 81 p 2

[Editorial]

[Excerpts] President Limann, on Holy Saturday, invited the country's entrepreneurs to cooperate with him in finding a lasting solution to our economic problems.

The appeal by the President raises a number of questions. Are we to take it that since September 24, 1979 the President has not found it appropriate to call in the businessmen, the industrialists and the farmers to discuss and plan an all-out national programme to take Ghana out of the woods?

We have held the view that the Limann Administration had completed this assignment since it is quite fundamental for any new Government to do so. The President's appeal, coming 18 months after being ushered into office, creates the impression that Ghanaian entrepreneurs had been left out in the planning of the national economy and the task of finding solutions to problems associated with it.

One thing the Limann Administration seems unable to drop is the making of statements of hope and assurances. There appears to be too much of "The Government is determined to do this," or "The Government is planning to do that."

What President Limann fails to realize is that Ghanaians who voted him into power want him to say, "I have so far done this," or "I have for 18 months, done that."

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE--As part of its rural development programme, the Government has decided to mobilize more than 10,000 youths, including students, during the next long vacations to assist farmers to harvest their crops. In addition, the youths will give free labor to farmers and help in other development projects. Announcing this in Accra on Tuesday, Dr EK Andah, Minister of Youth and Rural Development, said the programme, being carried out jointly by his Ministry and the National Youth Council (NYC), was aimed at improving the living standard of the people in the rural areas. The programme, the first of its kind being planned by the Ministry since its establishment a few months ago, would provide an opportunity for the youth to be of service to their communities and also expose themselves to the realities of life in the rural areas. [Excerpt] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 16 Apr 81 p 1]

CHINESE-ASSISTED RICE PROJECT--About 2,000 people whose houses will be inundated when the Afife rice project is completed will be resettled in new townships at Mangome, Adzoati, Torgbeve and Dekporhorme. This was announced by Mr Frank Amegah, Volta Regional Minister, when he paid a surprise visit to the project site at the weekend. The visit of the Regional Minister, was aimed at acquainting him with activities of farmers in the Ketu district in their preparations for the major planting season. The multi-million cedis project which is being financed by the Chinese is expected to be commissioned in the later part of next year. A spokesman for the Irrigation Development Authority told the minister that the first phase of the project comprising the construction of giant irrigation dams, sluices, fish ponds, accommodation for both workers and those to be displaced during the project, are to be completed this year. Mr Amegah commended the Chinese for working around the clock to have the project completed on schedule and appealed to the Ghanaian workers to cooperate with their Chinese counterparts in all fields of endeavour, particularly in development of agriculture. [Excerpt] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 20 Apr 81 p 8]

VOLTA REGION ELECTRIFICATION--Work has started on the 28 million-dollar Volta Region electrification project. The range is being cleared in preparation for the erection of poles. Contract for the extension of power from the Akosombo grid to the region was awarded to an Italian firm about two weeks ago. Mr Atsutse said with the extension of electricity facilities to the region, more industrial concerns would be established in the area to create job openings for the youth. [Excerpts] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 23 Apr 81 p 1]

INCREASED OIL REFINERY OUTPUT--The GHAIIP Oil Refinery is to increase its production capacity by 30 percent to meet the country's petroleum needs in the late eighties and early nineties, Mr P Wulff-Tagoe, Minister of Fuel and Power, has announced. Mr Wulff-Tagoe said the primary distillation unit of the plants would be revamped without delay. Inaugurating the reconstituted board of directors of the refinery in Accra yesterday, the Minister said this had become necessary due to the growth of the local market and the increasing demand for gasoline. At present, GHAIIP has a refinery capacity of 1,230,000 tonnes of crude oil yearly. [Excerpt] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 23 Apr 81 p 8]

JAPANESE TRANSPORTATION GRANT--Ghana and Japan yesterday signed an exchange of notes under which the Japanese Government has extended a grant of 2 million Japanese yen (approximately \$2.3 million) to Ghana for the purchase of vehicles. The grant was a contribution to the transportation reinforcement project by the Ghana Government. Part of the amount would be used for payment of freight charges on the vehicles. Speaking at the ceremony, Dr Chinebuah noted that to date the Japanese Government had given a total grant of 870 million Japanese yen (approximately \$10.9 million) to Ghana in aid of various projects. He explained that yesterday's grant would be used for the purchase of haulage trucks. [Excerpt] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 11 Apr 81 p 8]

SOUTH KOREAN AGRICULTURAL DONATION--Ghana and South Korea on Friday signed a protocol agreement for the formal hand-over of 30 agricultural tillers donated by South Korea in support of Ghana's ongoing agricultural programme. The machines, a gift from the South Korean Government, include 30 sets of 'Dae Dong' agricultural power tillers, 30 sets of trailers, ploughs, muddy wheels and furrowers. Others are 30 sets of tools for the power tillers and a ten percent recommended fast moving spare parts for the machines. The free-on-board price of each of the tillers has been estimated at about 1,400 dollars, approximately \$3,850. The Minister of Agriculture, Mr NY Agbesi, signed on behalf of the Government, while the South Korean Ambassador in Ghana, Mr Kwang Han Hwang signed on behalf of his country. According to Mr HB Batesa, acting director of the Mechanization Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, the machines would be deployed to the irrigation sites where rice crops have been developed. Mr Agbesi said the gift from the Government of the Republic of Korea "marks the culmination of a very cordial relationship and fruitful cooperation that have existed between the two countries." In his address the South Korean Ambassador disclosed that the gifts come to Ghana in accordance with an agreement signed last year between the two countries. [Text] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 13 Apr 81 p 3]

BRITISH MINING, AGRICULTURE LOAN--Ghana and Britain have signed a \$10m. loan agreement for the rehabilitation of sections of the mining industry and to help boost agricultural production between 1981 and 1984. Half the loan will be used to provide spare parts and replacement machinery for the mining sector. The remainder will go towards the cost of purchasing agricultural transport. The interest-free loan is repayable over 25 years with a seven year grace period. Ghana and Britain have signed a new five-year technical cooperation agreement under which Britain will recruit qualified and experienced teachers for the Ghana education services. The scheme provides for teachers to be attached to sixth forms and to the science departments of Ghana's higher educational institutions. The agreement was signed by the Ghanaian Education Minister, Mr. F. K. Buah, and the British High Commissioner, Mr. James Mellon. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 20 Apr 81 p 896]

SWAPO DEMOCRATS ASSERT POSITION

Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in English 16 Apr 81 p 8

[Text]

WINDHOEK The following statement was issued by the National Executive Committee of the Swapo Democrats yesterday:

IT IS indeed painful and heartbreaking for us to keep reminding the world's people and especially the people of this country about the ill-fated Geneva Conference on Namibia which, sadly enough, is behind us. It is accordingly, therefore, that the Swapo-D leadership views this escalating problem as a national trauma hinged mainly on the following:

- (a) That we have here a political independence dispute which also entails a constitutional crisis.
- (b) And that there can be no economic equality as well as social tranquility unless and until the political-constitutional problem had been resolved first.

Whereas it is true that the actual policy of the Reagan Administration on Namibia is still largely unknown, in so far as we are concerned, we nevertheless think that the overtures emanating from that quarter should not be given only cursory attention. We especially are interested in the latest American proposal for another round table talks in the form of, probably, a constitutional conference. We do support such a new initiative in principle. In other words, we of Swapo-D have

always been consistent in our political position that we are for any positive and genuine moves aimed at solving peacefully our country's problem.

However, we want to again put it on public record that Swapo-D's policy remains intact, namely that we still uphold the procedural principle that all parties should be accorded fair and equal treatment. That is why if ever a constitutional conference or any other international meeting on Namibia is to be convened, Swapo-D will always participate as an independent nationalist movement. And further, we hold that the UN Security Council Resolution 435 is no panacea for all the ills of the country, but it is, in our view, still the only viable framework so far towards a lasting solution. And thus, for the purpose of making progress, Swapo-D may go along with the idea of effecting modest modifications or adjustments to Resolution 435 in order to move away from the present stalemate.

But having said so, let us emphasize one or two things. We are firmly opposed to any attempt, either on the part of the Reagan Administration or the government of South Africa, to use such a constitutional conference as a time wasting device which would unnecessarily delay the independence process. Nor

should such a conference be convened without the direct involvement of the international community? For it is our belief that Namibia demands the direct responsibility of the United Nations, although we are not opposed to any power sponsoring or meeting such a conference.

That has been, and will continue to be, doing a lot of work in the region. It is not, however, on no account be construed as echoing the distant songs of those who maintain that this resolution is already dead.

In our acceptance of the projected constitutional conference we are guided by the historical parallels in colonial Africa. With a few negligible exceptions, constitutional arrangements had always preceded the holding of general elections and the handing over of power. The most recent example of this procedure is Zimbabwe. As in the case of the rest of Africa, it is of utmost importance to

our people in Namibia that they know beforehand what kind of constitution they are going to live under.

In sum, we of Swaziland are not averse to the concept of holding a Namibian constitutional conference, for we believe that a national constitution emanating from such a conference shall safeguard and guarantee the basic rights of all our citizens, irrespective of their colour, creed or sex. There will therefore be no need to include clauses or provisions in the constitution giving privileges to so-called minorities or majorities. To that end, a Bill of Fundamental Human Rights shall be enshrined in the constitution.

Finally, although we are strongly opposed to the notion of the United States Government of consulting only foreign countries and South Africa on issues that are of vital importance to our people, Dr Crocker's prudent mission to Africa is to us, both timely and welcome.

REPORTAGE ON BASIC TRADE UNION SEMINAR

Building Socialism

Victoria NATION in English 21 Apr 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] A basic trade union seminar opened on Praslin yesterday with a call to Seychelles workers to intensify the struggle against capitalism and imperialism.

Speaking at the opening of the seminar, both the President of the Seychelles National Workers Union and the Secretary, Mr Olivier Charles and Mr France Bonte, said that with the triumph of the revolution, four years ago, a new era had dawned on Seychellois workers.

They said the destiny of Seychelles now lay in the hands of its workers who must continue waging the struggle against capitalism and create a new socialist society.

Our task is only one: the building of socialism. But this will very much depend on the hard work of the workers of Seychelles, they said.

Said Mr. Bonte: "If we have reached the present stage of our development, it is thanks to the Seychellois working people."

The Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Jacques Hodoul, the Minister for Planning and Development, Dr Maxime Ferrari and the Minister for Agriculture, Mr Karl St. Ange attended the opening of the seminar yesterday by the Secretary General of the Seychelles People's Progressive Front and Minister for Administration and Political Organization, Mr Guy Simon.

Addressing the workers' representatives drawn from all over the country, Minister Ferrari said his ministry was keen to develop all the major islands without discrimination and towards this end electricity would be commissioned on Praslin on June 5th.

"We in Seychelles believe that man is the purpose of development and all our efforts must be directed towards the development of the people," he said.

Officials from the Ministry of Planning and Development are currently on a tour of Praslin and La Digue to discuss development programmes with Party branch officials, Minister Ferrari told the seminar.

Addressing the seminar also yesterday, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Jacques Hodoul, who is also the Political Secretary of the Party, analyzed the social classes of the previous Seychellois society and the historical role of the workers.

"We are presently transforming the old structures on which the social division depended so that we can pave the way for the new Seychellois society," said Mr Hodoul.

In his opening remarks before the seminar began, the Secretary General of the Seychelles People's Progressive Front, Mr Simon, explained the new structures of the National Workers Union which is affiliated to the Front.

He announced before the seminar participants that a reorganization of the union is currently taking place whereby it will hold elections for its officials all over the country.

The Secretary General appealed for more discipline and dedication towards work.

The seminar continues today with a talk by the Minister for Education and Information, Mr James Michel, who will speak on the capitalist exploitation of workers.

Eradicate Capitalism

Victoria NATION in English 22 Apr 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] The Minister of Education and Information, Mr James Michel, has called on Seychellois workers to make serious and concerted efforts to eradicate all capitalist-related vices such as selfishness and individualism.

He told participants of a seminar of representatives of the National Workers' Union at the Union Education Centre on Praslin yesterday that capitalist mentality and values inherited from the past capitalist system in Seychelles must be wiped out.

"This is a pre-requisite in our efforts to build socialism. We have to wage a self-internal combat with our mentality and consciousness if we are to move rapidly towards socialism," he said.

In a one-and-a-half hour exposure and analysis on the capitalist exploitation of workers, Minister Michel set the historical background of the social layers of the prerevolutionary capitalist society in Seychelles and analysed the mode of production of a capitalist society and inequalities that exist between social layers of that kind of society.

He told the seminar: "In a socialist society, it is the workers who are in power, the authors of their own destiny and owners of the major means of production."

"We in Seychelles are now realizing this stage and every worker therefore, should help in our move towards socialism."

Earlier the Secretary of the National Workers' Union, Mr France Bonte, explained the new constitution of the Union and emphasized that the Union should not only be seen as a school of socialist construction but also of discipline where workers learn to manage socialist enterprises.

Mr Bonte said the Union will continue to train workers to sharpen their ideological consciousness and called on participants to resolve to play a crucial part in achieving economic liberation.

The seminar continues today with a talk by the Chief Economist in the Ministry of Planning and Development, Mr Emmanuel Faure on under-development, its characteristics and causes.

He will be assisted by Mr Shelton Jolicoeur, the National Secretary for Education in the Workers' Union, who will discuss the role of workers in economic and social development as well as the National Workers' Union, its structure, character and role.

Third World Industrialization

Victoria NATION in English 23 Apr 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] Participants attending the trade union seminar which entered its third day on Praslin yesterday have called upon developing countries to set up industries in their own countries as one way of reducing their dependence on the rich, developed countries.

This is a consensus of a lively debate which ensued following a talk on the causes and characteristics of underdevelopment given yesterday by the Chief Economist in the Ministry of Planning and Development, Mr Emmanuel Faure.

Most participants in the seminar said that since developing countries were the principal producers of raw materials, it was urgent now, more than ever, to industrialize their countries in order to fight the exploitation being perpetuated by the rich North taking advantage of inadequate industries in the Third World.

We normally sell cheap and buy dear, they said, adding that the only way towards rapid progress was through industrialization and cooperation between and among Third World countries.

Mr Faure spoke earlier on the vicious circle in which developing countries find themselves and said the real answer for them was a concrete realization of social investments such as in the fields of education and agriculture.

Mr Faure told the seminar that the workers' government in power in Seychelles had a concrete programme for skilled manpower and a sound agricultural base as a long-term realistic solution towards self-reliance and progress.

He emphasized, however, that the overall participation of the people in economic development remained the government's policy in its development programme.

Speaking on the role of the working class in economic and social development, the Secretary for Education and Research in the National Workers Union, Mr Shelton Jolicœur, attacked the role of multi-nationals as agents of imperialism excelling in the exploitation of workers in developing countries.

He said it was the multi-nationals again who were indirectly perpetuating neo-colonialism in developing countries even after the death of conventional colonialism.

He told the seminar that imperialism was trying to block the development process of genuinely independent countries through outright military intervention or through aid with strings attached.

"Like the Party, the Workers Union in Seychelles should assume the vanguard role against neo-colonialism," he said.

The seminar divided itself into groups yesterday to evaluate the topics of the day's discussions. Participants identified absenteeism by some workers in offices and enterprises in the country as detrimental to the health of the economy.

They said the best way to combat the problem was through union-organized political education classes for all workers to make them realize that the enterprises they work for belong to them.

The seminar continues today with a talk in the morning by Mr Jolicœur who will speak on the history of the international labour movement.

The Secretary General of the Seychelles People's Progressive Front, Mr Guy Simon, will later in the afternoon speak on the role of the Front as the vanguard in socialist revolution.

Greater Worker Participation

Victoria NATION in English 24 Apr 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] The Seychelles National Workers' Union plans to launch workers' committees in all public and private enterprises in a move to strengthen workers' participation in the management of all sectors of the national economy.

This was announced yesterday by the National Secretary for Education and Research in the National Workers' Union, Mr Shelton Jolicœur, as he explained the union's new constitutional structure at the seminar now in progress on Praslin.

In line with the union constitution approved by the Party's Central Committee last December, it is stipulated that workers' committees will be established in the private and public sectors to ensure greater participation of workers in the management of all enterprises.

He said elections for union office-bearers, drawn from union sectors in construction, agriculture, fisheries, transport and communications will take place immediately after May Day celebrations this year.

Speaking on the role of the Seychelles People's Progressive Front as a vanguard of socialist revolution in the country, the Chairman of the Seychelles National Workers' Union, Mr Olivier Charles, deputizing for SPPF Secretary General Mr Guy Sinon, said the SPPF was a development of the former Seychelles People's United Party, and its role now is to consolidate the workers' achievements of June 5th, 1977.

Mr Charles said the SPPF was the supreme authority in the country, and the state and all mass organizations assumed the role of implementing the policies and objectives of the Front.

The seminar also heard yesterday a guest speaker from Tanzania, who explained the role of the Tanzanian National Workers' Union as an affiliated body of the ruling party in Tanzania, Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM).

He said the role of the Workers' Union in Tanzania, like that in Seychelles, was to mobilize all workers for the sole task of building socialism.

The seminar ends today when participants will evaluate all discussions which have taken place and come up with resolutions.

The Minister for Labour and Social Services, Mr Philibert Loizeau, will close the meeting.

CSO: 4420

SEYCHELLES

TWENTY-THREE NEW BRANCH COMMITTEES ELECTED

Victoria NATION in English 20 Apr 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] One of the most important duties of Seychelles People's Progressive Front members and one of the major events on the country's calendar of political events, the election of branch executive committees, came to an end on Saturday afternoon after over a month of weekend polls.

The Pointe Larue and St Louis committees were the last of the 23--20 on Mahe, two on Praslin and one on La Digue--that have been elected all over the country since early March.

Once again these elections which have laid out the base for party activities for the next two years, have provided overwhelming proof of the effective and leading role Seychellois women play in their society. The equality of all citizens in all aspects, including the sexes, has always been one of the foundation stones in the mobilization of the members of any society struggling towards socialism. In this respect Seychelles can be proud of her achievement.

Of the 230 committee positions contested in this year's elections, women have filled 93 or 40 percent. Of these, 33 are office bearers. This is 36 percent of such posts. But most impressive of all is how Seychellois women have come to dominate in the leadership of SPPF branches. Of the 23 chairmen, just over half, 12 are women.

However, the chairmen of the last two committees elected are men.

Harry Gabriel leads the Pointe Larue committee with Andre Sinon as vice-chairman, Marjorie Florentine as secretary and Flavienne Pothin as treasurer. Roddy Zialor, Francois Edmond, Archange Gabriel, Georges Marie and Christianne Gayon are all committee members.

St Louis' chairman for the next two years is Michael Padayachy. Lucien Changty-Young is vice-chairman, Ogilvy Delcy is secretary and Etienne de Comarmond is treasurer. They are backed by Beatrice Aglae, Benjamine Socrates, Monica Samynadin, Wilfred Mathiot, John Surman and France Hypolite as committee members.

ANSE AUX PINS

Ida Moustache, chairman;
Samuel Charlette, vice-chairman;
Lucienne Charlette, secretary;
Neville Camille, treasurer.

Committee members:— Linnette Naya, Nilia Dina, Irene Andrew, Elva Pool, Ginette Georges and Marie Pierre Lloyd.

ANSE ETOILE

Anne-Marie Mathiot, chairman;
Gérard Quilindo, vice-chairman;
Charles Elizabeth, secretary;
and Michel Mathiot, treasurer.

Committee members:— Bernadette Jolicoeur, Jérémie Bonnelame, Taciana Berlouis, Léon Dogley, Paul Eugénie and David Fréminot.

ANSE BOILEAU

Simone Arnephy, chairman;
Edmond Antat, vice-chairman;
France Bernadin Naya, secretary;
Julina Antat, treasurer.

Committee members:— Laurita Servina, Michel Evonor, Alex Mend, Elzéar Walter, Harry Mussard, André Pool.

ANSE LOUIS

Anne Roseline, chairman;
Yvette Jacques, vice-chairman;
Joseph Servina, secretary;
Winnie Germain, treasurer.

Committee members: Thomas Dodin, Soudressin Naiken, Amédée Bonnelame, Thérèse Hoareau, Emmanuel Pierre, Wilfred Pierre.

ANSE ROYALE

Deubine Samson, chairman;
Wilhem Boniface, vice-chairman;
Marie-May Heareau, secretary;
Roby Woodcock, treasurer.

Committee members: Raymond Michel, Sylva Rosine, Lois Sinon, Céline Dubel, Philippe Edmond, Flocel Marango.

BAIE LAZARE

Finley Recombo, chairman;
James Cédras, vice-chairman;
Lise Albert, secretary;
Bérrard Esparon, treasurer.

Committee members: Clara Gresslé, Eric Magnan, Christine Larue, Ferdinand Vidot, Philip Benoiton, Wilson Joseph.

BAIE STE. ANNE, PRASLIN

Armantal Lespérance, chairman;
Franky Marcel Léon, vice-chairman;
Eléane Rose, secretary;
Anne Dubignon, treasurer.

Committee members: Ravil Lespérance, Mrs. Roch Pool, Wyn Lespérance, Emma Lespérance, Bryan Dubignon, Ramiel Poupponneau.

BEAU VALLON

Jessie Fréminot, chairman;
Tex Albert, vice-chairman;
Willy Confait, secretary;
Sheila Bawji, treasurer.

Committee members: Bernadette Barrado, Guy Marie, Conrad Shamlaye, Elise Fernandez, Géraldine Laporte, Antonio Beaudoin.

BEL'AIR

Aimée André, chairman;
Raoul Larue, vice-chairman;
Rita Savy, secretary; Grazie-
la Loizeau, treasurer.

Committee members: Ma-
rie Stella Alcindor, Godfrey
Agricole, Françoise Shroff,
Lucia Barbé, Elizabeth Jérôme,
Flossy Albert.

BEL OMBRE

Francis Macgregor, chair-
man; Sylvianne Sham-Hong
vice-chairman; Ivy Nazareth,
secretary; and Gérald Brea-
son, treasurer.

Committee members: Char-
les Furneau, Jean Célestine,
Aloys Baccus, Michel Baccu-
si, Maurice Camille and Sid-
ney Nalletamby.

CASCADE

Regis Pierre, chairman; Al-
bert Jean-Louis, vice-chair-
man; Céline de Comarmond,
secretary; Lorna Camille,
treasurer.

Committee members: Fran-
çois Percy Rose, George
Prea, Christiane Charles, Ag-
nès Baronne, Diana Lafor-
tune.

ENGLISH RIVER

William Herminie, chairman;
Joséphine Laboudallon, vice-
chairman; Andrée Mounac,
secretary; Harry Payet, trea-
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Marguerite Gendron, vice-
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tary; Anaclet Tirant, trea-
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Committee members: Evans
Nolin, Jacqueline Louange,
Nella Pillay, Charles Azémia,
Michel Benoit Sinon, Edward
Azémia.

GRAND ANSE MAHE

Anne Athanasius, chairman;
Joseph Belmont, vice-chair-
man; Dora Michel Jacobs,
secretary; Léon Hoareau,
treasurer.

Committee members: An-
toine Young, Paul Labaleine,
Jean-Claude Hoareau, Rod-
ney Pointe, Maxime Tous-
saint, Ruth Gerry.

GRAND ANSE PRASLIN

Mrs. Christie Fred, chair-
man; Gaétan Volcère, vice-
chairman; Wilna Gonthier,
secretary; Jonas Victor, trea-
surer.

Committee members: As-
ton Barbé, Antoine Barbé,
Rose May Moonac, Yvon
d'Unienville, Moses Barbé,
Unicy André.

LA DIGUE

Chérubin Radegonde, chair-
man; Simon Lespérance,
vice-chairman; Gerina Louise,
secretary; Théodora Rade-
gonde, treasurer.

Committee members: Alain
St. Arge, Ahseng Waye Hive,
Mildred Nibourette, Antoine
Elizabeth, Ernest Constance,
Percy Dingwall.

MONT BUXTON

Rita Gappy, chairman; Royly Bailey, vice-chairman; Simon Joachim Gill, secretary; Callyxla Lasplace, treasurer.

Committee member: France Laporte, Ferdinand Sauzier, Henry Célestine, Noëlla Antat, Donald Ernesta.

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Rifned Jumeau, chairman; Pascal Payet, vice-chairman; Mariène Lionnet, secretary; Florence Benstrong, treasurer.

Committee members: Emilia Joseph, Dolor Ernesta, Andrine Gertrude, Brian Camille, Daphney Morel and Fleurange Siméon.

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Committee members: Jules Ragain, Daniella Léon, Louisa Moustache, Guy Labiche, Estelle Rath, Jacqueline Pierre.

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Committee members: Roddy Zialor, François Edmond, Archange Gabriel, Georges Marie and Christianne Gayon.

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Committee members: Anne Tirant, Amida Jumaye, Sydney Hoareau, Joland Auguste, Lucile Bristol, Claude Siméon.

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Committee members: Béatrice Aglaé, Benjamine Socrates, Monica Samynadin, Wilfred Mathiot, John Surman and France Hypolite.

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Committee members: Gordon Morel, Jeffrey Hoareau, Eric Bistquet, Alice Francoise, Archange Mirabeau, Antoine Suzette.

SEYCHELLES

SOVIET ADMIRATION OF PRESIDENT, PEOPLE REPORTED

Victoria NATION in English 18 Apr 81 pp 1, 2

[Text]

"THE PEOPLE of the Soviet Union admire the President, the Government and people of Seychelles because of their simplicity and their determined effort in the struggle against imperialism and neo-colonialism."

This was one of the impressions of the People's Assembly delegation who have returned home after spending a week in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Supreme Soviet.

The delegation, led by Mr. John Renaud, Chairman of the People's Assembly, consisted of Mrs Helena Ragain, Member of the Peoples Assembly for Plaisance, Mrs Rita Gappy, Member for Mont Buxton, Mr. Gilbert Barbier, Member for Glacis and Mr. René Labiche, Member for Anse Louis.

They were met on arrival at Seychelles International Airport by the Soviet ambassador, Mr. Alexander Startsev and other embassy officials.

During their stay in the Soviet Union, the delegation visited various sites and development projects, not only in Moscow but in several other cities including Lenin grad.

While touring an educational establishment closely resembling the National Youth Service at Port Lauenay, the delegation were given a painting as a gift, which will be given to the NYS.

Speaking on behalf of the delegation, both Mrs Gappy and Mr Labiche said that because the people of the Soviet Union were straightforward and warm, they felt at home.

Even though the programme of visits was tight, they had time to appreciate the achievements of the Soviet Union in all fields, they said.

Mrs. Gappy said that the Women's Association in the USSR was very active and was greatly involved in the development of the society.

Mr. Labiche said he was impressed by the cultural developments in the Soviet Union though he thought one would need to study for five or six years to have a thorough understanding of them.

He added that he was very pleased by the way the people chose their Parliamentary representatives, who came from all sectors of activity in the country.

CSO: 4420

FRIENDSHIP MOVEMENT WITH SWEDEN CONFIRMED

Victoria NATION in English 23 Apr 81 p 2

[Text]

THE Seychelles branch of the budding Seychellois-Swedish Association, a friendship movement to promote relations between the two peoples, held its first annual general meeting at the Pirates Arms Hotel on Tuesday evening. Present were Ministers Ferrari, Loizeau and St. Ange and the Honorary Consuls of the two countries.

The Minister of Labour and Social Services, Mr. Philibert Loizeau, is the chairman of the local branch, which was formed a fortnight ago, seven months after the Swedish branch was set up in Stockholm in the presence of the Seychelles Minister of Planning and Development, Dr. Maxime Ferrari.

The Association is non-commercial, non-political and non-religious. It will promote the exchange of information about the two countries, extended cultural and friendly connections between the two peoples, Swedish co-operation

in Seychelles, and Swedish interest in nature conservation here.

Anyone interested in Sweden and in promoting friendship and co-operation between the two countries can apply to the association's committee for membership.

Two men who will play important roles in the Association are Mr. Bengt Sjoegren, Seychelles' Consul in Sweden, and Mr. Anders Svensson-Rydin, Swedish Consul in Seychelles.

At Tuesday's meeting Mr. Sjoegren conveyed the greetings of the Swedish branch of which he is chairman, to its sister branch here.

Other members of the Seychellois branch are Mrs. Marianne Ferrari as vice-chairman, Mr. Erik Johansson, secretary, Mrs. Tiki Rydin, treasurer and Mr. Kantilal Jivan Shah and Mr. Lars Boven as members.

SEYCHELLES

MILAN TOURIST OFFICE INAUGURATED

Victoria NATION in English 20 Apr 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] Seychelles' latest European tourist office was officially opened in the 59th Milan (Italy) International Trade Fair last Thursday by the Minister for Transport and Tourism, Mr Matthew Servina. The Tourism Minister and a folklore troupe are on a tourism promotion tour of Europe that is taking Mr Servina to the Soviet Union as well before moving on to India, and the culture group to France, Switzerland and Monaco.

The Milan Tourist Office was opened in the Africa Palace which also holds twenty other trade and commercial offices of African countries participating in the Fair.

Present at the inaugural ceremony were the president of the Fair, the director of the Africa Palace, board members of the Fair, senior officials of the Italian Foreign Ministry, several diplomats of the African countries represented at the Fair and representatives of tour operators, travel agents and the travel and tourism press. From Seychelles there was Mr David Lowmuck, the Senior Tourism Officer for Marketing and Miss Maryvonne Pool who has been running the office since last month.

Following the ceremony, Dr Franci, the Fair president, expressed great hopes for the prosperity of Seychelles because, to use his own words, "it is not in the pocket of any power."

The next day, Friday, Minister Servina held talks with representatives of the travel trade and was interviewed by the Italian press and television.

The Minister came to Milan from encouraging talks in Rome with the Director General of Civil Aviation and officials of Italy's national airline, Alitalia. Before he left Seychelles for the trip a week ago, the Minister also expected to meet with government officials and trade representatives attending the Milan Fair, while in Rome.

After Milan, Mr Servina was expected to separate from the cultural group to travel to the USSR and India for maritime and civil aviation talks. He is to be joined in Moscow by senior port shipping officials from the transport section of his ministry.

Meanwhile, the 13-strong folklore troupe gave two performances in Rome and Milan before leaving for Monte Carlo in Monaco, Marseilles and Nice in France, Lausanne in Switzerland, and Turin, back in Italy. According to reports from Italy, the group is making quite an impression in its bid to "sell" Seychelles through cultural performances.

CSCI 4420

CHANGE IN LAW PROPOSED TO HELP THE ELDERLY

Victoria NATION in English 22 Apr 81 p 2

[Text]

A BILL to bring the old age qualifications for benefits under the old National Provident Fund more in line with those of the Social Security Scheme has been published.

If it becomes law it will amend the 1971 NPF Act making old age benefit payable at the age of 65, irrespective of whether a member is employed or not.

Under the NPF a member became entitled to old age benefits at 65 years old only if he was not actively employed or even self-employed. Otherwise he had to wait until he was 70.

The SSS, which replaced the NPF in March, 1979, provides a retirement pension at the age of 65 only as long as the person's income is not more than the national minimum wage.

For a person earning less than this wage but not less than the retirement benefit, the amount of money paid out by the Scheme is reduced and graded according to the amount he is earning. Someone earning less than the value of the benefit receives a full pension of R 300.

With the introduction of the Scheme the NPF was frozen, though contributions to it stopped at the end of 1978. However all assets of the NPF are kept under trust with respective amounts credited to the accounts of individual members. Interest at the rate of three per cent a year is being paid on those accounts.

Meanwhile former NPF members are still receiving benefits due to them under the NPF Act as and when these become due. These benefits are paid alongside any Social Security ones to which a person may be entitled.

GOVERNMENT CUTS CONSUMER PRICES

Victoria NATION in English 22 Apr 81 p 1

[Text]

THE GOVERNMENT is moving to reduce the cost of living, and thus lifting the pressure on the family budget, by cutting the prices of the most common consumer goods. Some of the new prices announced this month are up to 30 per cent less than housewives were paying.

Under price control regulations published this month :

- All brands of sweetened condensed milk are now selling at R. 4 per tin of 397 g instead of R. 4.25.

- A Lactogen milk powder tin of 450 g now costs R. 11.25 instead of R. 15.30.

- Nido milk powder has gone down to R. 11.10 from R. 15.20.

- Cow & Gate baby milk has been added to the price control lists and now retails at R. 31.95 a 1000-gramme tin.

- Orange squash in bot-

ties of 750 ml now sells at R. 4.75 instead of R. 6.15.

- A packet of six candles which originally cost R. 7.80 can now be bought for R. 5.45 and the price of a candle has been reduced by 40 cents from R. 1.30 to 90 cts.

- A roll of Softee brand toilet paper now sells at R. 2.40 instead of R. 2.75.

- Berek U2 batteries are R. 1.80 each, down from R. 2.10.

- Cement has also gone down in price. A 50 kg bag of Baobab ordinary cement is R. 36.25 where previously it was R. 39.25. The new price for ex-silo cement is R. 670 per tonne instead of R. 730 per tonne.

A Government spokesman said : "While Seychelles has no control over external inflation which affects the price of imported goods, it is determined to maintain the purchasing power of the workers' wages by taking steps to cushion the impact of imported inflation wherever possible and prevent excessive profit mark-ups.

"We are carefully studying ways and means of reducing prices on as many items as possible and these will be published as and when decisions are taken."

The latest list of goods affected by price revisions was published in the Official Gazette on Monday and is reprinted on Page 4 of today's Nation.

CSO: 4420

SEYCHELLES

BRIEF

SOVIET SPACE EXHIBIT--A Soviet exhibition of photos to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the first manned space flight was officially opened yesterday at the National Library, State House Avenue. The official opening was performed by Mr Antoine Abel, Senior Cultural Officer in the Ministry of Education and Information and the Soviet Union's Charge d'Affaires in Seychelles, Mr Vladimir Shihin. Also present were several officials of the Soviet Embassy, members of the diplomatic corps in the Republic as well as several Government officials. The exhibition depicts various aspects of the life of Yuri Gagarin, who became the first man in space when he orbited the earth for 108 minutes on April 12, 1961, and will stay open until April 29. [Excerpt] [Victoria NATION in English 23 Apr 81 p 2]

CSO: 4420

COMMENTARY STRESSES IDENTITY OF VIEWS WITH KENYA

Mogadishu HEEGAN in English 10 Apr 81 p 6

[Text]

We welcome the Kenyan Minister of Information's recent warning to journalists, particularly those foreign correspondents based in Nairobi, not to be an instrument of propaganda in the hands of those seeking to poison relations between his country and its neighbours. The minister must certainly have had in mind the SDR in making the warning.

Countless is the number of times the Kenyan press has been used by such correspondents to spread the story that the SDR has sent «bandits» to disturb the peace in Kenya, while we, for our part, have been trying all along to deny this baseless allegation, giving concrete evidence for our refutations, and desisting from defaming the Kenyan people and government. At the same time, our mass media have never been inspired by any elements hostile to Kenya's independence and security.

On the subject of good neighbourliness we should see eye to eye with Kenya, and we are glad that Kenya's stand on this issue has been voiced by the Vice-President, Mwai Kibaki, who spoke before the minister of information at the «Kenyan journalist of the year award.»

The SDR government firmly believes that the mass media should be locally development oriented and means of creating understanding and harmony among all the nations of the world. That is why the Somali Revolution has renamed the former ministry of information with «national guidance.»

We the developing nations cannot afford to waste time on any other thing except development. Particularly, the African nations have a special duty in this respect, since they are among the most backward in the world. So, we have to

aim at rapid development to catch up with others more advanced than us. But for such development peace and security in each country are of paramount importance. And unity and cooperation among all African states, and particularly neighbours is another prerequisite and is based on common sense and mutual interests.

The SDR and Kenya are both committed to development and the advancement of their peoples. They have therefore both a duty to mobilize their masses to beneficial ends. They have also a common enemy, neo-colonialism, which has a stake in seeing them remaining underdeveloped. So, they have also the responsibility of exposing the tricks of this enemy of their nations. Hence the Somali and Kenyan peoples have one common goal. Should they not strive together to attain it? Yes, indeed!

THEBEHALI ESCAPES UNINJURED IN HANDGRENADE EXPLOSION

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 8 May 81 pp 1, 2

[Article by Lawrence Mayekiso]

[Excerpts] Black and White leaders in various walks of life have strongly condemned the attempt on the life of Mr David Thebehali, chairman of the Soweto Council.

Mr Thebehali narrowly escaped death on Wednesday night when a handgrenade exploded under his car, sending shrapnel tearing through the seats behind and beside him.

The boot, petrol tank, a window, three tyres, seats and roof of the car, a Toyota Crown, were damaged in the explosion but Mr Thebehali, who was behind the wheel at the time, was unhurt.

The Minister of Police, Mr Louis le Grange, expressed his shock and regret at the incident. He assured the public that the police would do everything in its power to find those responsible.

Dr Piet Koornhof, Minister of Co-operation and Development also expressed his deepest condemnation of the incident as well as other incidents of terror.

A shocked Mrs Lucy Mvubelo, general secretary of the South African Clothing Workers' Union, challenged Mr Thebehali's attackers to come out in the open so they could be seen.

If the attack on Mr Thebehali was caused by people who did not want the Soweto Council, his death would not have led to its abolition, she said.

"Why won't his opponents face him on a political platform and convince the public not to vote for him if what he is doing is not in the interests of Black advancement?" she asked.

Dr Harrison Motlana, chairman of the Soweto Committee of Ten, saw the attack as a warning to the South African Government to change its policies.

"It indicates the violent society in which we live.

"While nobody will condone such actions, it does indicate more than ever to those in power that they must urgently improve the rapidly deteriorating race relations in this country.

"The Nationalist Government should be held entirely responsible for what has happened."

Mr Thebehali said he had started the car outside the council chamber at about 6.25 pm and then drove along a subsidiary road linked to the main road. As he turned into the main road, the car was suddenly rocked by a loud and powerful explosion.

He told Sapa: "I sensed the explosion had come from underneath the car and tried to get away by accelerating, but found I could not increase my speed."

He drove the car to the Jabulani police station near the council chambers and reported the incident.

Mr Thebehali said he had no idea who could be responsible for the incident.

"I have asked myself why this attempt on my life. If I were to die, nothing can stop the council's programmes in Soweto from going ahead.

"The people of Soweto know we are responding to the city's civic needs for electrification, housing, industrial projects as well as the upgrading of various projects. They realise this is meaningful change.

"However, there are others who are aware of what we are doing in Soweto and do not like it. They are jealous of the changes and improvements we are bringing about, but nothing they do will stop us from going ahead with our plans." Sapa

CSO: 4420

NEW PAC CHAIRMAN POKELA INTERVIEWED

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 27 Apr 81 p 4

[Text]

IN a major bid to unite and consolidate the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC), the Central Committee of the organisation last February appointed Ndugu John Nyazi Pokela (60) new chairman. This follows two years of internal conflict within the organisation leading to the murder in June 1979 of one of its leaders, Ndugu David Sibeko. Ndugu Pokela who was jailed for 13 years on the Robben Island due to his political activities was released from jail and then escaped out of South Africa last April to join the external wing of PAC. He talks to JOHN NGAI of Shihata on the Azania struggle against the South African police state and his efforts to unite PAC members abroad and at home.

Q: THE Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) was founded by mainly former members of the African National Congress (ANC). It is now interesting that the PAC is calling for a "united front" by all South African liberation movements against the boer regime. What would you say if at a later stage the ANC referred to you as "a splinter group"?

A: The emergence of the PAC was a natural dialectical development from a lower

phase to a higher one. So the PAC emerged and was formed naturally as a result of the existing conditions at that period.

The unity of more than one political organisation as a front, does not necessarily imply absolute unanimity on all things. In this sense the unity we call for suggests that there are more points of agreement than disagreement.

Further, this is not the first time we call for co-operation with other liberation and patriotic organisations. In my

speech on the 21st of March, 1981 I said so. Cognisant of the stupendous task facing us, and objective enough to know that the struggle in Azania is multi-frontal, the President of the PAC, Comrade Mangaliso Sobukwe called up the other nationalist organisations to join the PAC in its unfolding programme.

He went further to assure other organisations that it was immaterial which organisation was launched first, and to any which started first others were to lend sup-

port. Thus our emergence into the political arena of Azania heralded at the same time the acceptance of joint actions with sister organisations.

It was in March 1980 when this call was made, so what we are asking for is not new. But we feel that the climate is much ripe now since all organisations have accepted in principle the idea of unity. And we of the PAC argue that it is high time we moved from mere acceptance of unity in principle to the actual implementation of that principle.

Q: The other day you talked of "loose unity", what did you exactly mean by that?

A: By "loose unity" I meant starting somewhere, even if it only involved sitting down with the other patriots to spell out principles and areas where we can take joint actions, create a healthy atmosphere for working together, we may even agree that at some stage when we have achieved the primary objective of defeating the enemy, each organisation shall be free to act as it wishes.

Q: While on the notorious Robben Island Prison where you were detained for 13 years what did Nelson Mandela tell you about his approach to the question of unity?

A: Briefly I could say the PAC leaders in prison always exchange views with the ANC leaders in prison. This they do because although the two organisations are banned, there is nothing that can stop a discussion of unity by convicted political prisoners.

Let me emphasise that the discussion on unity was between PAC and ANC political prisoners and not the work of only one or two individuals.

Q: You have once stated that unity between the PAC and the Black Consciousness Movement (BCM) of South Africa is inevitable. How likely is it to happen?

A: In my opinion, the leaders of the BCM, both inside the country and those in prison are very much alive and advanced

in this connection. I have many personal friends amongst them who are of decisive influence in the BCM and amongst the masses of the Azania people.

Q: How many nationalist are being held on the Robben Island?

A: The Robben Island is three miles long by two miles. When I left (the Island) last year in April, the number of political prisoners was at least 640. Now exactly one year later, I am told that 960 more have a veteran Azanian freedom fighter, Ahmed Gora Ibrahim, of Asian origin, who is member of the PAC Central Committee and director of Publicity and Information, and was formerly PAC's Chief Representative in Baghdad, Iraq. Now based in Salisbury, he has represented the PAC at several international forums, including the United Nations, on issues of South Africa.

Q: What major achievements have you scored during the short period you have led the PAC?

A: First I was given a responsible position of Chairman of the Party. Further, the Central Committee gave me been imprisoned there — excluding 1,300 political detainees.

You should understand that under the South African regime the term "political prisoners" is a reference to nationalists who have ostensibly been "convicted" while the reference to "political detainees" is for those people awaiting "trial".

On the Island there are also prisoners held on "criminal" offences who are separated from "political prisoners".

Q: The PAC has been accused of advocating a "racist" policy because you do not admit non-black South Africans in your organisation. How true is that?

A: The PAC has its basic documents which are a guide to its members. PAC does not coerce people into joining it. The choice rests on the in-

dividual concerned. We have defined an African as an indigenous inhabitant of Africa or anybody who owes his loyalty to Africa. So you can see, a man must first be an African politically before he is recognized as such to be eligible for membership of the PAC.

In short, colour race is irrelevant to the PAC. The PAC does not discuss membership on the basis of colour. Its constitution aims for unity, hence people of all colours are invited to join the PAC, provided they owe allegiance to Africa and not dual nationality of Azania and Britain or Zimbabwe and India. Even those who support or back up the bantustans or tribal grouping in Azania automatically disqualify themselves from membership of the PAC.

One of the several "non-black" members in the PAC is unanimous support, and so was the unanimous support of all loyal members of the party.

Another major step is the unconditional return to the Party of the 72 comrades from Tabora. The 72 were expelled from PAC by the Central Committee in July 1978. The response from all over centres is tremendous. Many people are keen to regularise their membership. Lastly we have formed a Unity Committee of eleven members.

Q: It has been alleged that for a long time the PAC has not shot at the enemy. What new approaches do you envisage?

A: I think those who say we have not shot at the enemy are adventurists, who only go for sensational news. What are they going to say when they learn that a PAC base at home protected for a considerable time guerillas belonging to another South African organisation.

Some of those who tell you that we have not shot at the enemy have been unfair to you because they have not informed you that the PAC mobilise people to protect guerillas of a competing Party.

We mobilise even to the extent of helping others when they are in trouble rather than let them fall into the enemy hands.

We have not reached a state where we regard other liberation movements as our enemies. Further those who make these irresponsible comparisons are hands that actually divide freedom fighters instead of helping them to unite.

Q: What is the morale of PAC members in South Africa after all these years of struggle. Have they shown signs of giving up hope of attaining freedom?

A: The total population in Azania is 28 million people. Four million are white, about three quarter of a million are Asians. Therefore, 23 million are Africans. How are Africans expected to give up and surrender their birth right?

The white racist regime will only last as long as there are people who are ready to co-operate with them in their oppression.

Q: What is all this talk that the PAC is "recognized" by Peking and the ANC by Moscow?

A: As far as I know the PAC is recognized by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations Organisation (UNO) and by the African people. As Pan Africanists, we are neutral in nothing that concerns the destiny of Africa.

Let me state that, we support all socialist countries. However, we reject moves by supporters of the liberation struggle in Azania to favour or give preference to one liberation movement because such actions encourage division amongst the oppressed people of Azania and their liberation movements, instead of uniting them for a common goal.

Lastly let me be frank, we loathe hegemony by foreign powers. We are concerned with the basic task of changing the status quo in our country. Anybody who helps us must do so without any strings attached. We resent dictation or paternalism of any kind.

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL MEMBER WORRALL DISCUSSES ALTERNATIVES

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 5 May 81 p 5

(Text)

CAPE TOWN. — Constitutional progress in South Africa, as elsewhere, implied social and economic reform and no constitution, however brilliant, could work without support from the social and economic milieu in which it functioned, Dr Denis Worrall, chairman of the President's Council's constitution committee, said during the weekend.

He told a Rotary congress in Cape Town he personally thought that full citizenship could not be excluded, whatever the President's Council recommended.

Stressing that he did not want to anticipate council recommendations, he raised the following points about South Africa's political future:

- However brilliant a constitution might be, it could not work unless it was supported within the economic and social milieu in which it functioned. In other words, constitutional reform in South Africa implied social and economic reform;

- The political options remaining for South Africa were limited in a constitutional sense as well as by time. An internationally-recognised expert on democracy in pluralistic societies, Dr Arend Lijard, had stated clearly there were only three ways for democracy to succeed in societies like South

Africa. These were recognition of the different population and cultural groups, the decentralisation of political power (or consociational democracy) and, where that was not possible, partition.

- Apart from individual rights, group rights would have to be institutionalised, whatever new form of government came about. The reason for this was that when political power in an homogenous society changed hands from one party to another, the losing party had no fear of losing its basic political rights. In a divided society, however, with various ethnic groups, the competition for power was between such groups and if a group lost its political power it generally lost not only its basic rights but almost everything else that was important to it, and

- In designing a new constitution, it was important to differentiate between the idea of democracy and the form it could take. While the United States, Switzerland and Sweden could all be viewed as democracies, their forms of government differed drastically because the particular circumstances of each were reflected in their different forms of government. The formulation of a suitable form of government for South Africa would demand great originality and it could not be expected of South Africa to follow existing models.

"Against this background, however, I want to stress that I personally do not think that, whatever the President Council recommends, full citizenship will be excluded.

"The time for points of departure is past. The President's Council is itself a point of departure.

The first duty of the Council was to work out a new form of government for South Africa. Constitutionally speaking, the greatest problem facing the country was how to make representative government work in a society of different ethnic groupings.

The problem was that representative government worked only in societies in which there were uniform values, interests and faiths.

Countries like Canada, Belgium and Spain showed that the problem did not apply only to new countries in Africa and Asia.

This was the problem the President's Council and, in particular, the constitution committee, would have to try to solve, Dr Worrall said.

He hoped South Africa could set an example for the rest of the world.

"It is my attitude, as well as that of my colleagues, to approach the pertinent questions with an open mind as far as humanly possible." — Sapa.

AZAPO CLAIMS SUCCESS IN ENTERTAINERS BOYCOTT

Johannesburg, SOWETAN in English 22 Apr 81 p 2

[Article by Sam Mabe]

[Text]

FOUR national executive members of the Azanian People Organisation (Azapo), have been released after two weeks in detention.

The release without trial of the four leaders came only a day after the O'Jays had completed two shows — attracting 40 000 fans at Orlando Stadium in Soweto and 15 000 at the Super Stadium in Atteridgeville, Pretoria.

Azapo had earlier called for the boycott of the O'Jays' shows as part of their move to the cultural and sporting isolation of South Africa because of its racist laws.

The freed men are Khehla Mthembu, national president, Mr George Wauchope, national publicity secretary, Mr Thabo Ndabeni, national organiser and Mr Mlungisi Mayana, national secretary.

Mr Jefferson Lengane, a senior member of Azapo, said yesterday that the release of Azapo's leadership shortly after the O'Jays' two shows confirms suspicions that they were detained to pave the way for the O'Jays' shows.

Police did not give reasons for the detention of about 20 people.

When asked to comment on the O'Jays' shows which were described as a success by the promoters, Mr Lengane said: "In a liberation struggle, we do not calculate our successes and failures in terms of immediate effects only, but also in terms of future effects."

"We should judge the whole issue not only in terms of attendance, but we should ask whether the promoters got what they envisaged despite Azapo's call for a boycott."

"Azapo's call to boycott foreign artists is succeeding as far as Azapo is concerned. It should also be borne in mind that our call to the people is an appeal to the people's conscience."

What people should also note is the role played by the system in the O'Jays' show. Five executive members were detained prior to the show and 10 were taken by the police while protesting during the show. All were released after the show.

When people speak of the 40 000 who attended the show the other question is, how many did not attend? Soweto has a population of 1.5 million and the 40 000 who attended were from the whole of Johannesburg, neighbouring towns and neighbouring countries like Botswana and Swaziland.

"Azapo sees itself as succeeding in this boycott because people are heeding our call and promoters are losing financially," Mr Lengane said.

He added that the financial losses incurred by the promoters was a clear indication of the popular support Azapo's call had received.

He also attributed the large number of people attending the show to the infancy of Azapo's strategy on the boycott.

"We are still in the

process of conscientizing the black masses and there is no doubt that the promoters are feeling the pain, that is why even the Government has stepped in to frustrate our efforts. Our stance with regard to foreign artists and performers remains as firm as ever," Mr Lengane said.

On the detention and release of Azapo members, Mr Lengane said: "The detention of our leaders does not remove oppression nor the preparedness to be liberated. We will not be intimidated by police acts against our members.

"Their release is a clear indication that they were detained to pave the way for the O Jays, hence their release shortly after the show.

"But we shall continue with the struggle despite all forms of harassments and intimidation," Mr Lengane added.

REPORTAGE ON LABOR DEVELOPMENT:

End of Sigma Strike

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 24 Apr 81 p 3

[Article by Norman Ngale]

[Text]

MORE than 2 000 Sigma Motor Assembly Corporation workers decided yesterday afternoon to end their 14 day strike and return to the plant for reinstatement.

They were persuaded to do so by the National Union of Motor Assembly and Rubber Workers of South Africa who held talks with Sigma on Wednesday and earlier yesterday on behalf of the strikers.

The strikers assembled at the Mamelodi Community Centre yesterday morning and waited for the response from delegates of the union who had given management their conditions for returning to work.

The conditions were that management recognises the union as their sole negotiating body; the union be allowed time during working hours to report progress to the workers during negotiations; negotiations for

week, will be buried at the Mamelodi Cemetery on Saturday.

In a joint statement between the union and Sigma's management later yesterday, Mr Leon Shirley, spokesman for the company said after further negotiations the union had agreed to recommend that strikers still on strike should be re-instated.

Mr Shirley said that once workers had returned to work and employee strength had been restored to the level at the time of the strike, the union's membership would be assessed in the light of existing recognition agreement.

He said that after proving that the union represented 50 percent or more of the labour force then negotiations would start.

Mr Shirley said a large group of the striking workers were at the factory applying for reinstatement and that it was evident the strike was over.

the two issues (working conditions and increased wages) must be finalised within a limited period and no worker should be victimised on return to work.

Mr Tuffy Adler, Transvaal secretary of Fosatu, told strikers at the lunch time meeting report back that they had proved to Sigma they were a force to reckon with.

Mr Adler, who came from Port Elizabeth to address the strikers, said they had the support of more than 13 000 members of Fosatu in the region who watched Sigma's development with keen interest.

He said that Fosatu offered condolences to Paulos Mahlangu's bereaved family and that the organisation would send a donation as well as a speaker to represent it at the striker's funeral on Saturday.

Mr Mahlangu, who was shot near the factory last

Refusal To Register

Johannesburg **RAND DAILY MAIL** in English 29 Apr 81 p 3

[Text] A key unregistered trade union has reacted to the Government's new labour Bill by reaffirming its refusal to register.

It has also called for a "united front" against the Bill, which contains tough new controls on the union movement.

The Bill is believed to be designed to persuade unregistered unions to register and join the Government's official bargaining system.

The union, the General Workers Union (previously known as the Western Province General Workers Union) took this decision at its first national conference held in Cape Town at the weekend, a union statement said yesterday.

The GWU's decision confirms predictions of labour analysts who argued that the Bill would fail in its main object--that of persuading unregistered unions to join the system. The decision is almost certain to be followed by similar moves by other unregistered unions.

The statement said the GWU's members had decided at the conference to reaffirm "our policy and principles of worker control of, and non-interference of the authorities in, union affairs."

Accordingly, the conference had reaffirmed the union's decision not to seek registration.

It said the proposals contained in the draft Bill "further indicates the State's contempt for trade union autonomy."

It added that delegates had "pledged themselves to struggle relentlessly against such attempts by the State to take control of the union's affairs out of the hands of its members."

The statement called on "all concerned" to launch a "united front" against the Bill.

A union spokesman added: "As far as we are concerned, industrial relations is an issue between trade unions and their employers. It has nothing to do with the State. Official control of the union is totally unacceptable to our members."

The union has submitted comment to the Department of Manpower Utilisation setting out the conditions under which it would be prepared to register.

Mvubelo Comment on Industrial Bill

Johannesburg **SAND DAILY MAIL** in English 21 Apr 81 p 14

[Editorial: "Change This Bill"]

[Text]

As Mrs Lucy Mvubelo showed so clearly in her SABC TV interview on disinvestment the other night, she is one of the most moderate union leaders in the country.

But while Mrs Mvubelo's views must have soothed many feelings, she also had a message for the Government last week that went by virtually unnoticed. The veteran general secretary of the National Union of Clothing Workers attacked the proposed Industrial Conciliation Amendment Bill in terms which were as sharp as any made by the more militant unions.

Her criticism involves a clause which will allow the Government to close down a registered union if it has acted unlawfully, or "has

failed to observe" any provisions of its constitution or has "acted unreasonably" towards its members. Mrs Mvubelo not only resents this Government interference in union affairs, but feels that the measure tends to justify the stand of unions who are against registration.

We have said before that the Bill contains a number of commendable proposals, but Mrs Mvubelo has again underlined the essential fact that the Government seems incapable of introducing reforms without imposing increasingly severe controls which inevitably undermine and even destroy its good intentions.

The message is clear. This Bill has to be drastically revised.

Year 2000 Employment Prediction

Johannesburg **THE CITIZEN** in English 6 May 81 p 8

[Text]

CAPE TOWN — By the year 2 000 South Africa would have to create 1 000 new jobs every working day to provide work for new male entrants to the labour market, the executive director of the South African Federated Chamber of Industries, Dr J C van Zyl, said at a briefing session attended by members and officials of the President's Council in Cape Town yesterday.

Not even a drop in the national birth rate would reduce the problem significantly since most of those who would be seeking work between now and the end of the century had already been born.

"There is no way the problem can be avoided," Dr Van Zyl said.

"We are dealing here with hard basic facts on the supply side of the labour market which we can ignore only at our peril."

He told the meeting that the country's total population was expected to reach 46 million by the year 2 000 and that the proportion of Whites would decline from the present 16.1 percent to 11.2 percent.

At the same time, the relative share of the Black population was likely to increase from 71.7 percent in 1980 to 77.4 percent by the year 2 000.

A growth rate of at least five percent a year in the real gross domestic product would be needed to absorb the increases in the labour force, Dr Van Zyl said.

He predicted that South Africa's future economic growth would take place largely in the existing urban areas, and not in the outlying areas. The economically active population in the four largest metropolitan areas in 1970 was 3.3 million — about 60 percent of the total non-agricultural economically active population.

"This pattern is indicative of powerful economic forces at work pulling new activities towards the existing metropolises, especially the Pretoria/Witwatersrand/Vaal Triangle area," he said.

By the year 2 000, about 90 percent of all Whites, Coloureds and Asians would be living in urban areas. In the

case of Blacks, estimates varied between 50 and 70 percent being urbanised by the end of the century. By last year, 38 percent of all Blacks were living in the metropolitan areas.

"Whatever the rates of urbanisation, it is clear that great demands will be made on the housing, social, administrative and physical infrastructure and the provision of employment opportunities.

Furthermore, there are serious implications in terms of satisfying the political aspirations of very large numbers of urbanised people for whom satisfactory channels of political expression have to be developed." — Sapa.

Criticism of Training Programs

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 4 May 81 p 8

[Article by Keith Abendroth]

[Text]

A LEADING industrialist warned in Pretoria yesterday that South Africa was "teetering on the edge of complete labour chaos."

Mr Tommy Hutt (67) the doyen of South Africa's plastic industrialists and a world figure in the field, told The Citizen in an interview: "We are cartwheeling haphazardly and blissfully almost unawaredly, along the road to absolute chaos and breakdown in our labour field."

He said that proof of his contention was to be seen in the strikes in recent weeks,

particularly in Pretoria's industrial complex.

"And the boys at the top, supposedly in control, simply don't know what's going on and cannot even begin to understand the Black labour they claim to be trying to control."

South Africa's whole labour pattern and a bright industrial future was being threatened by four main hazards.

"There are too many monopolies on the scene calling the tune and making the State dance to it; immigration procedures and recruitment of skilled staff

The country is now having to pay for its sins in not stepping up Black training earlier — something we pleaded for 25 and more years ago.

overseas is bogged down in a hopeless bureaucratic mire; the so-called technical training of Blacks is a farce, and there are too many paper-qualified but practically useless whizzkids making noises at both Government and private enterprise level."

At the top, and holding the reins, were men who simply did not know what was going on, but who had convinced themselves — after their red-taped appointment — that they were "God's gift to South Africa's labour future."

In his hard-hitting interview, Mr Hutt said that he could "no longer hold my peace."

The future of the country, he said, was at stake.

The biggest problem was probably the wide-eyed recognition given by the authorities to paper and academic qualifications — a mistake being made by many other countries who were now finding out the error of their ways.

Time and again men had high academic qualifications but could produce no more than windowdressing — and no results — when it came to the practical application of their knowledge.

The Government allowed too many monopolies to operate — resulting in the offering of outrageous salaries to inadequately qualified staff and the theft of staff from smaller enterprises.

On the immigration front, the State authorities seemed "to go out of their way to place stumbling blocks, in the form of mountainous piles of paper work and no-co-operation, in the way of importation of staff."

Levies paid by industry to help finance the "so-called technical training" of White and particularly Black workers was "being flushed down the drains of inefficiency."

"We have nothing to show for it. If there is any benefit coming from all these so-called technical training institutions I have still to see it," said Mr Hutt.

The State was playing with dynamite in the process — "qualifying" Blacks to do certain jobs and putting them in the position to make arrogant wage demands.

"And when we employ them we have to unlearn them before we can teach them properly," he said.

The answer to the problem was the time-tested appren-

ticeship system, in a modified form, in which a man was paid for what he did and did his learning work at night — with the incentive being unlimited, depending on his interest and ability.

At the same time, wage structures for Blacks were such and so rigid that the experienced hand earned little more than the "greenhorn" with the result that the experienced worker was increasing saying "to hell with it" and in effect "going slow".

"The hash exists at all levels. And the self-opinionated people who are academically qualified but impractical and who are trying to right things, are making the hash into the biggest labour stew you ever saw," said Mr Hutt.

Some senior Government men had confessed to him that his complaints — echoed by other industrialists — were "more than justified".

"They admit that the country is now having to pay for its sins in not stepping up Black training earlier — something we pleaded for 25 and more years ago, only to be told that we wanted to deprive Whites of their jobs."

The boys at the top ... simply don't know what's going on and cannot even begin to understand the Black labour they claim to be trying to control.

CITIES' COST OF LIVING FOR BLACKS, COLOREDS COMPARED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 May 81 p 11

[Article by Marilyn Cohen]

[Text]

JOHANNESBURG is the most expensive centre in the country for both Blacks and Coloureds to live in, according to the latest Household Subsistence Level survey conducted by the Institute of Planning Research in Port Elizabeth.

The Survey, which is undertaken every six months, looks at how much it costs an average Black or Coloured family to live in different centres in the country.

It takes into account only food requirements based on the September 1975 revised diet for Blacks, and the January 1976 revised diet for Coloureds, which was issued by the Department of Health as well as rentals, transport costs, and fuel and light expenses.

For the eight surveyed urban centres, the HSL for Blacks (household consisting of six members) was lowest in Port Elizabeth and Pretoria, where it was just over R196 per month. It was highest in Cape Town (R209) and Johannesburg (R216).

The HSL for a five member Coloured family ranges from R200 in East London to R222,52 in Johannesburg.

Black families were particularly hard hit over both the last six and 12 months in six areas. In Johannesburg, for example, the HSL increased by eight percent over the past six months, and in the past year it increased by a total of 20,1 percent.

In Port Elizabeth the increases were 7,5 percent and 17,3 percent over the past six and 12 month periods respectively. In Uitenhage the increases were 8,3 and 18,9 percent; the Vaal Triangle, six and 16 percent; and Kimberley 5,6 and 16,7 percent.

Of all the surveyed centres, Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage Coloured households were hardest hit, with increases of 21,5 percent and 26,1 percent over the past 12 months respectively.

The survey predicts that by 1985 — provided the current rate of inflation remains more or less unchanged — the average HSL for a black family in the five major urban areas (Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, PE and Cape Town) could reach R306 per month, about R100 per month more than at present.

HNP BEGINS ORGANIZING FOR NEXT ELECTION

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 5 May 81 p.3

[Article by Jaap Theron]

[Text]

THE HERSTIGTE Nasionale Party had already started to prepare for the next general election, Mr Jaap Marais, leader of the party, said yesterday.

A candidate's conference would be held this Saturday in Pretoria to discuss plans for the rapid expansion of the party's organisations countrywide, he said.

The HNP envisaged a country divided into 24 zones, with a permanent HNP office and officials in each zone, and the appointment of a number of executive officials to form an umbrella organisation to control the zones.

The party had gained the support of many prominent professional and other well qualified people in the election, and it wished to use them in the expansion plans.

Their first task, he said, would be to increase the financial flow to the HNP and "to increase the circulation of the HNP's mouth-piece, Die Afrikaner, at least five fold".

Regarding an alliance with

other rightwing political groups, Mr Marais said there was no immediate reason for this.

Mr Marais, however, indicated that a possible alliance would be discussed at Saturday's conference.

Dr Connie Mulder, leader of the National Conservative Party has said he was in favour of an alliance although there was "no immediate haste".

Dr J A Gerber, assistant secretary of the Action Own Future movement, which retained its deposits in two parliamentary and one provincial seats contested in last week's election, yesterday said the movement was "definitely available for consultation on a Right-wing alliance".

He said it would be a wise consequence of the election to bring all conservatives together but emphasised that there was no urgent need to force such an alliance.

Mr Marais said that the HNP's annual national congress would this year be held in the Pretoria City Hall, on

September 3, 4 and 5.

Mr Marais confirmed the HNP would definitely take part in certain municipal elections in the Transvaal in March next year.

He said the HNP would contest all those municipal seats "where the Government is using the local organisations, town council or city council, to enforce its verligte policies".

Pretoria was a prime target following the City Council's decision to open parks, sports fields and restaurants in White areas to all races.

The HNP would soon decide which seats to contest.

A spokesman at the Transvaal National Party head office yesterday reiterated that it was not party policy to fight municipal election on party political lines.

But in cases where a constituency's divisional council decided unanimously to fight a municipal elections under the auspices of the NP, an exception was made.

DURBAN SUBSTATION SABOTEURS ARRESTED IN LESOTHO

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 8 May 81 p 2

[Article by Johan Kloppers]

[Text]

THE MINISTER of Police, Mr Louis le Grange, yesterday announced that three African National Congress terrorists responsible for the sabotage of a Durban electricity sub-station last month had been arrested by Lesotho police.

In Maseru a Lesotho police spokesman confirmed that negotiations would take place with South Africa regarding the possible hand-over of the three terrorists.

The spokesman told The Citizen that the three men were being kept at Mokhotlong, a town in the eastern part of the country.

They were going to be moved to a "suitable venue" where they would be questioned. Asked when negotiations would start, he said it depended on when the two governments were ready.

They were captured by the Lesotho Mounted Police who became suspicious "as they

He said Khayiyana left South Africa in 1979 for military training in Angola.

He was afterwards elected as a member of the so-called Solomon Mahlangu sabotage group and was sent to Maputo.

He returned to South Africa several times and was, among others, responsible for the attack on the house of Black policeman, Lieutenant Njobeni in Ermelo on November 9, 1979, in which Lt Njobeni's children were seriously injured.

Khayiyana had also been involved in the sabotage attack on Secunda on June 1, last year.

Khumalo had left South Africa in 1975 and received military training in Russia the following year.

Mr Le Grange said Salomane left South Africa in 1976 and underwent military training in Angola.

looked like town folk and not ordinary country people".

In his announcement yesterday Mr Le Grange said: "The terrorists fled directly with a vehicle to the Lesotho border after committing the sabotage deed.

"The car was left near the Sani Pass and the terrorists fled by foot over the border.

They were arrested the same day in Lesotho and the police confiscated three AKM rifles, three Tokarev pistols, two grenades and a number of rounds of ammunition.

Mr Le Grange said the three terrorists gave false names to the Lesotho police. They claimed to be Jonathan Sibusiso Magome, Enoch Shabalala and Zesakhale Amprose Muntu. Their true identities were Lunga Victor Khayiyana, Vikelisiwe Collin Khumalo and Mabote Bennet Salomane.

STEEL INDUSTRY SUFFERS FROM SHORTAGE OF TECHNOLOGISTS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 4 May 81 p 23

[Article by Gordon Knowler]

[Text]

SOUTH AFRICA had a serious shortage of steel technologists who could be employed as field representatives to promote the use of more sophisticated steel qualities. Dr Rocco de Villiers, technical adviser steel market for Iscor, said at the weekend when he opened the new premises of Van Reenen and Nicholls, Steel Merchants.

He said that as the general level of technology advanced, the necessity of using such steel became more important as it was imperative that local industry had to keep up with developments elsewhere in the world and to remain viable in an international sense.

Dr De Villiers said industry was fighting shy of using more sophisticated steels because they were not always available at the time with the small tonnages required.

He said this should be seen against the background of steel deliveries from a large steel works where any order for one item of less than 1 ton was usually frowned upon and lead times of 10 to

12 weeks was normal. Industry was loathe to specify because of poor availability and few stockists showed interest because of low demand. Industry therefore suffered and often had to rely on imports and even lost contracts against the importers of completed components. The solution seemed to lie in a combined effort of stockholding and promotion, but efforts to stock and promote the more specialised steels were on a low key and met with little success.

He said that the Van Reenen and Nicholls operation was a stockholding operation covering structural steel from BS 4360 grade 50B to the sophisticated ROQ-tuf grades with strength levels of three times that of standard grades. The company's comprehensive range also included ROQ-last wear resisting plate.

The company supplies the mining and earth moving industry, which are large buyers of sophisticated steels.

DE BEERS EXPECTED TO REDUCE DIAMOND SALES

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 29 Apr 81 p 16

[Article by Adam Payne]

[Text]

MR HARRY Oppenheimer, chairman of De Beers Consolidated Mines, in his annual review, confirms that De Beers' Central Selling Organisation is substantially reducing its rough diamond offerings to the market.

From this one can deduce that the first-half diamond sales figures can be expected to decline sharply to a level even lower than that of the second half of last year.

The second-half figures for 1980 were lower than those of the first half.

Mr Oppenheimer makes no predictions on De Beers' expected performance over the full year but he spells out the present situation of the diamond market, with the CSO carrying out a very conservative sales policy.

The difficult conditions, he says, are due not so much to any serious decline in the consumer demand for diamonds as to the effects of unjustified speculation after the boom years in the cutting centres.

In spite of lower offerings from the CSO to the trade, retail sales since a busy Christmas are continuing at satisfactory levels.

He strongly criticises the speculation that developed after 1978 at cutting centres in diamonds at premium prices "financed largely by bank credit".

This speculation, followed by a downturn, seriously harmed the market.

Some fall in retail demand from its previous exceptionally high level, coupled with unprecedented high interest rates and pressure on diamond dealers by the banks who had financed this speculation in the first place, have combined to undermine confidence in the cutting centres," he says.

"However retailers have reduced their stocks and before too long they will have to replenish them in order to meet the continuing consumer demand."

"This must in due course enable the cutting centres to reduce their stocks of polished diamonds to reasonable proportions though undoubtedly some losses will be incurred in the process."

Mr Oppenheimer says stocks of rough diamonds in the trade are not excessive but in view of the large stocks of polished diamonds, the CSO is carrying out its traditional function of reducing the quantity of goods offered to its customers so as to assist the market to recover its balance.

In particular the CSO is withholding from sale the larger diamonds of high quality which were the prime medium of speculation and of which significant quantities are now held by the trade.

"In the longer run these diamonds are rare and desirable and we are by no means concerned at stocking them."

Reviewing events last year, Mr Oppenheimer says the industrial diamond market felt

the impact of the general economic recession in the second half of the year but has not been affected by special difficulties through speculation such as those experienced by the gem market.

Sales of industrials both in volume and value were at about the same level as in 1979.

Discussing the financial results, which were published with the final dividend declaration to bring the year's total to 76c, he points out that the net diamond account was less by R146-million than in 1979. An increase of R123-million in mining expenditure contributed to this decline.

Investment income at R147-million was higher by R64-million.

Allowing for minority interest, the total value of net investments, loan levy at R129-million and net current assets attributable to De Beers at December 31 was R3 536-million or 833c a share compared with 833c the previous year.

Group diamond production rose from 14-million carats to 14 700 000 carats and a further increase in group production is expected this year, particularly from Finsch diamond mine in the Northern Cape where production is principally of industrial stones.

Next year the commissioning of the Jwaneng mine in Southern Botswana, with mining production at a rate of 4 800 000 tons a year, will lead to a further substantial increase in group diamond production.

Mr Oppenheimer comments favourably on the reorganisation of Minorco in which De Beers has a 23% interest. He says that Minorco will now be much better equipped for expanded investments on an international basis than formerly.

"I believe that the reorganisation that has taken place in the manner in which we hold non-South African investments will prove very advantageous to us in the future."

COMMENT: One of the bright aspects of this review is the statement that before too long retailers will have to replenish their stocks.

When they do this one can expect the CSO to open the tap more generously so that second-half sales should rise over first-half figures.

According to unofficial reports, CSO sights have been reduced by at least 60%.

At present the pipeline is being restricted and this action must strengthen the market. Such a strengthening could result in a price rise in the second half — the first since the overall 12% rise in February last year.

De Beers shares at 925c are on an historic yield of 8%, which is attractive for such a blue chip.

With a gold price decline which would affect the whole South African market the shares could fall to about 680c, especially after bad first-half CSO sales figures. They should then be an excellent buy.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON ECONOMY, FINANCE

Bank Rate Increase

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 6 May 81 pp 1, 2

[Article by Dan de Kock]

[Text]

THE NEW GOVERNOR of the South African Reserve Bank, Dr Gerhard de Kock, is determined to stamp out the ever increasing inflation rate.

The Reserve Bank yesterday increased the bank rate (the rate the Reserve Bank lends money to the commercial bank) by a massive 1,5 percent from 8 percent to 9,5 percent.

Commercial banks will meet today for discussions, but a prominent Johannesburg banker told me last night the commercial banks will probably go to the extreme spread of 3,5 percent above the bank rate.

This means that banks will lift their prime overdraft rates to a maximum of 13 percent. (The prime lending rate is the rate the commercial banks charge their best customers.)

At the same time deposit rates will also have to be increased and, if banks decide to raise them by the same margin as the prime overdraft rates increase a further increase in the mortgage rate also seems inevitable.

This means the money borrowers and house owners will be forced to put their hands deeper into their pockets.

INCREASES

Yesterday's increase in the bank rate is the second this year. The bank rate was first increased on February 2 when it was raised by 1 percent from 7 to 8 percent after holding steady at 7 percent throughout 1980. This means that the bank rate has increased by 2,5 percent in a matter of just over four months this year.

In announcing the increases Dr De Kock said the rise partly signified official recognition of the recent upward pressure exerted by market forces on short terms interest rates, including the rates of call money, treasury bills, bankers' acceptances and trade bills.

"At the same time it represents an essential part of the present anti-inflationary monetary policy, which is aimed at slowing down the present excessive rate of expansion of the money supply and reducing the pressure of excess demand" Dr De Kock added.

There is a gentleman's agreement between the Reserve Bank and the commercial banks that the latter won't increase their prime lending rate by more than 2,5 percent to 3,5 percent above the bank rate.

The prime lending rate of the commercial banks is currently 11 percent. If they decided to go for the full 3,5 percent spread above the bank rate the prime overdraft rate will climb to a new record high of 13 percent.

Pressure

I was told yesterday that there was such a pressure on short-term interest rates that banks are paying between 15 and 16 percent and sometimes more to attract sufficient funds. This is an indication that the commercial banks will probably go for the full spread above the bank rate.

It should be very interesting to see by what percentage the banks and the

building societies are going to increase deposit rates.

If they go for the full spread on prime overdraft rates above the bank rate it is likely that average deposit rates will move up by the same percentage. This will force building societies to follow suit otherwise they will lose their deposits in favour of commercial banks.

At the same time they will be forced to further increase their mortgage rates.

Boet Viljoen, president of the Association of Building Societies and managing director of the SA Permanent Building Society, said last night initially the increases in the bank rate were unlikely to affect building societies regarding deposit and mortgage rates because these rises were concerned with the money market in the short-term.

He did say, however, that the Association would take a very hard look at the situation.

Government Financial Strategy

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 6 May 81 p 27

[Article by Daan de Kock]

[Text]

JUDGING from the rates the Government is offering for its much awaited stock issue of R958-million, which is mainly aimed at reducing the liquidity in the economy further, the South African Reserve Bank really means business now in bringing down the country's inflation rate.

The rates of 9,5 percent and 12,50 percent that are being offered on the two loans over a period of three years and 22 years respectively, is lower than was expected in the market place. At the same time it is also an indication that the average inflation rate on the longer term will come down to more accepted levels.

The President of the South African Reserve Bank, Dr Gerhard de Kock, told me expectations are playing a major role in the issue. He said if investors think the Government is bluffing as far as the inflation rate is concerned, subscription for the issue will be poor. On the other hand if they believe the Government is honest in bringing down the inflation rate there will be a good response from the investing public.

Reading between the lines, the reduction in the inflation rate is one of the biggest concerns of the Reserve Bank at the moment.

Yesterday's increase in the bank rate is a further measure by the Reserve Bank to reduce the liquidity in the country, especially with the bumper receipts that will

flow in from the maize crop.

Dr De Kock told me it was inevitable that interest rates in South Africa had to rise.

We are one of the few countries in the world where there is such a big gap between interest rates and the rate of inflation.

He said he does not, however, believe in rigid interest rates. Interest rates should be allowed to be flexible and for that matter much more market related methods should be used to control the

money supply.

He also pointed out that the commission of inquiry into the monetary system in South Africa is breeding up its investigations and that a report could be expected as early as the end of June this year. One therefore just expects more market related methods to control the money supply in the near future.

Dr de Kock also said the introduction of more market related methods to control the money supply will also in future comprise the use

from the boys in the banking world, especially those banks who make substantial use of off balance sheet financing—something that is virtually impossible at the moment for the Reserve Bank to control.

He said one of the biggest problems in this country is that we need more public support in controlling inflation. It is therefore important for the public to understand the reasons why interest rates sometimes have to be increased or reduced in order to control inflation.

FRANK LEWIS, Johannesburg

Inflation—by RAND WILLY WATTS in the Year 2000

(Article by RAND WILLY WATTS)

(Text)

A 100-year history of the use of R. 100 million appears to be the estimate of the total value added added at March 1, 1980, according to the 1980-1981 financial year of the Treasury.

When Mr. De Kock was Minister of Finance in 1978, he said in his Budget of March 1978 that the 1980-1981 financial year would be the first year in which the 100 million mark would be reached. He said that the 100 million mark would be reached in the 1980-1981 financial year, but that the 100 million mark would not be reached in the 1980-1981 financial year.

But Mr. De Kock has now made a mistake. The 100 million mark will not be reached in the 1980-1981 financial year, but it will be reached in the 1981-1982 financial year. The 100 million mark will be reached in the 1981-1982 financial year, but it will not be reached in the 1980-1981 financial year.

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Johannesburg, 11 July 1980 (S.A. Press) — DAY 41 p. 18

[Article by Graham]

[Text]

IT WOULD appear that the average cost of consumer prices in 1981 compared with the level of 1980 will be slightly above the last year — the highest since 1960 the Bureau for Economic Research (BER) at the University of Stellenbosch says in its bulletin for prospects for 1981.

The Bureau says that the only reason for the otherwise "moderate" increase in the index is the forecast for a "near-zero" increase in inflation is expected to be lower than the actual increase.

The forecast is based on the fact that before the recent announcement by the South African Reserve Bank of an increase of 1.5 percent in the bank rate, but the forecast probably took into account because it was based on the forecast by the Reserve Bank of a greater degree of monetary and fiscal discipline than was the case during the latter part of 1980.

commenting on economic policy this year the Bureau says the basic policy thrust will be directed towards containing inflation, although the authorities will want to keep growth as high as possible to prevent unemployment amongst unskilled workers from increasing too much.

No further tax cuts are expected in the Budget which will be presented in August this year — not even to offset the so-called fiscal drag, the Bureau says. It also points out that the authorities will probably use monetary policies to a large extent to fight inflation. At the same time the South African Reserve Bank will also become a more effective participant in the money and financial markets.

In spite of the expected deficit on the current account the forward discount of the dollar may also be used so that a decline in the reserves will help to curb the growth in money supply.

The Bureau goes on to say that, all given the present inflation rate, the authorities will in general probably follow a neutral to slightly restrictive policy stance.

The Bureau forecast a real growth in Gross Domestic

Product (GDP) of between 4.5 percent and 5 percent this year. This is mainly the result of an expected slowdown in consumer demand as well as a slowdown in production. At the same time one must take into account that the slowdown in the growth this year will be taking place after the exceptionally high growth rate recorded in 1980.

With this in mind the Bureau says "it should be emphasized that the downswing in the South African economy will not be severe and is bound to be rather mild because of the overall position of the balance of payments, the continued strict discipline in Government spending and the market oriented approach towards the adjustments in interest rates and the exchange rate".

Analysing the sectorial growth it seems that agriculture, forestry and fishing will do best this year, increasing by an expected 9.2 percent. Mining and quarrying, which contributed such an important part to last year's growth, will show an expected negative real growth in the vicinity of 2 percent this year.

FORECAST AT A GLANCE

	Percentage Actual 1980	Forecast change 1981
Real Gross Domestic Product.....	7.9	4.8
Current Government Expenditure.....	29.8	14.4
Current Government Expenditure.....	20.1	22.1
Real Gross Domestic Fixed Investment.....	12.3	10.0
(public sector and public corporations)		
Private gross domestic fixed investment.....	12.3	10.1
Personal Disposable Income.....	18.3	19.8
Personal Saving.....	21.1	23.4
Real Private Consumption Expenditure.....	8.5	4.2
Inflation Rate.....	13.8	±15
Current Account of the Balance of Payments..... millions	R2 845	R-2 217

Further stabilization of inflation

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 21 Apr 81 p.16

[Article by John Malenby]

[Text] More conservative salary and wage adjustments, stricter control of the money supply and a slowdown in consumer demand could result in a decline in South Africa's inflation rate to 1% by the end of the year--on a year-on-year basis.

Mr Louis Kruger, an economist and a director of Rand Merchant Bank, says in a circular on economic trends that the rate of increase in real manufacturing output has tended to slow, probably because of the high level of production capacity use.

However, inherent in this situation is a potential inflationary factor which could inhibit real economic growth this year.

Mr Kruger says Rand Merchant Bank expects an average gold price of 3430 an ounce for 1981, which means that with an average of around 350 for the first three months, a decline at some stage in the rest of the year to 3400 and below is considered possible.

Mainly because of the sharp increase in the gold price last year, the gross national product increased at a notably higher rate than the gross domestic product, with an increase of 10% in the first 18 months in 1980.

This situation is expected to be reversed this year, and while a relatively good improvement of 5% in real GDP is expected, a real GNP will probably rise by a more moderate 3.5%.

Mr Kruger says the continued sharp increase in imports and the decline in the gold price, coupled with a weaker demand for Western goods because of recessionary conditions in world markets, could lead to a deficit of R1 000-million on the current account of the balance of payments this year.

"An improvement in the current account of the balance of payments is, however, expected to surmount this deficit," he says.

Rises in domestic interest rates are expected to compare well with those in the US and the UK should result in the financing of a substantial amount of additional foreign savings and the repayment of some of the foreign debt from domestic sources.

Gold and foreign exchange reserves are expected to be maintained at reasonably high levels, and South Africa's creditworthiness should be sufficient to finance the trade deficit deficit.

Mr Kruger says that while the monetary clip has been set by 15 interest rates will divide the movement of monetary aggregates over this year.

Revenues and expenditures of the balance of payments will become increasingly important as the need arises to finance the expected current account deficit. There may be a need to consider exchange controls in the budget in August.

"These considerations make it imperative that domestic money-market rates should be brought approximately into line with interest rates ruling overseas and particularly in the United States."

With US rates falling, the possibility of further rises in domestic rates may not be as severe as it appears at first sight.

Mr Kruger said that the performance of industrial shares compares well with those ruling during the 1970s. The performance of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange actuarial index. The average return for the 10 years ended 31 October 1971, was 17%.

However, yields on government bonds are considerably better than in 1971, and investors can expect to receive good yields on both earnings and dividends from the average industrial share.

Because of the high price of gold, the price of gold shares at 340 an ounce for the current year, the price of gold shares is likely to be significantly lower than last year. Mr Kruger said that gold shares should be viewed with caution.

While industrial shares are relatively firm around current price levels, Mr Kruger says that a long-term bear trend started in October last year.

"Mining prices are under increasing pressures of a declining gold price and industrial share prices in the face of a declining gold market."

Further, he said that the interest rate will also make current yield levels on industrial shares less attractive in spite of improvements in company profits and dividends.

"We therefore expect a further decline in share prices during the remainder of 1981, with gold shares continuing more than industrials."

Milk, Gasoline Price Increases

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 8 May 81 p 3

[Article by Keith Abendroth]

[Text]

INCREASES in the prices of two of South African's most precious and necessary liquids — petrol and milk — are in the pipeline for the immediate future, it was learnt in Pretoria yesterday.

The price of milk is expected to go up by about 6 cents a litre next month. This will be followed by an increase of at least 2 cents, and possibly 4 cents a litre in the price of petrol in July.

Recommendations for increases in the prices of both commodities are now before the relevant Ministers — in the case of milk the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Pieter du

Plessis, and for petrol the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr P W de Klerk.

The South African Agricultural Union has asked for a 20 percent increase in the milk price, but it is understood that the Minister is more likely to settle on an increase of 16 percent — in line with the inflation rate and with Government determination to keep down the prices of consumer goods as much as possible.

The formal request for an undisclosed petrol price increase has been made to Mr De Klerk, by one company on

behalf of all the oil companies.

It is expected, however, that the Cabinet will not make a final decision on the actual increase until after the meeting next month of the organisation of Petroleum exporting countries.

A 16 percent increase in the price of milk will make the price of carton of milk about 55 cents a litre in place of the present 49 tot 40 cents.

A spokesman for a major oil company yesterday said that an increase in the price of petrol was "urgent and necessary".

'THE RINGER' Comment

Pretoria SOUTH AFRICAN DIGEST in English 17 Apr 81 p 12

[From the "Comment & Opinion" section]

[Text]

The exciting new course in which the South African economy has been steered for the past few months and which was again spell out by the Prime Minister at the weekend will not only further increase the country's stature in the financial world but will also bring increased prosperity to all in South Africa.

Mr P W Botha's undertaking to free further the economy from State intervention and to encourage free entrepreneurial sets the seal on an economy whose performance was one of the best in the world last year.

With an 8 per cent growth rate the South African economy eclipsed the leading Western countries last year. This is again proof that the Government's economic advisers have the will to improve the welfare and prosperity of the country and its people.

This recipe for success has been taken a step further. The Government has undertaken to interfere less with economic processes and is to make more purposeful attempts to involve the country's neighbouring states in its growing prosperity.

Freer economy is a vital part of the constellation concept. By helping one's neighbours economically one helps oneself. There could hardly be a better investment for South Africa's future security.

But the Government wants to go further than merely reduce its direct control over the economy. It has expressed itself willing to help the process on with the aid of various stimulating measures in the different regions.

Much is already being done in this area but it is reassuring to hear from the Prime Minister that further support is to be given to various growth centres in the form of benefits in respect of transport, training and loans.

The Government's prudence and open hand are a farsighted step and in the years to come the benefits deriving from it will not only be assessed in terms of money. They will undoubtedly help assure vital political stability at the southernmost point of Africa.

Cape Town

A — April 13

'DIE VADERLAND' Comment

Pretoria SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS in English 17 Apr 81 p 23

[From the "Comment & Opinion" section]

[Text]

THE man in the street can hardly be blamed for wondering where the prosperity South Africa is experiencing lies. In terms of what he has to cough up, poverty is overtaking more people than is generally realised.

Higher rail tariffs and an increased petrol price and their rippling effects are delving deeper into his pocket every day.

Food prices have an uncontrollable tendency to rise and this goes for most other consumer goods as well. It is predicted building costs will rise anything from 27 to 30 per cent this year.

In effect this means that John Cilliers will have to cut down on food and clothes. And the mortgage rates on houses have just been increased by 1.5 per cent — four months after having risen 0.75 per cent.

In practice this means that with higher building costs people earning up to R600 a month will simply not be able to afford a house. And that isn't the end of their problems — increased mortgage rates push up rent as well.

We sympathise the problems of the building industry which have to turn to banks to obtain funds from savings. And then much more is expected from them for Black housing.

But that doesn't solve the housing problem.

On the one hand the standard of housing is long lower. Double garages, servant's quarters — and with them two cars and full-time servants — and two bathrooms will probably remain something of the past.

We believe the time has come to investigate seriously alternative types of houses and building methods to cut costs.

Johannesburg

A — April 8

Cap: 44111

BRIEFS

SUSPECTED RAIL LINE SABOTAGE--Sabotage is suspected in an explosion which damaged the railway line at Cottondale, near Hoedspruit in the eastern Transvaal yesterday afternoon. Late yesterday police were still on the scene conducting their investigations. At the time of the explosion the line was clear. Damage was slight and services on the Kaapmuiden--Tzaneen Phalaborwa line were disrupted for only a few hours. It took workmen just over two hours to clear the line and repair the damage, and by 5 p.m. services were resumed. Last month a large section of railway line was ripped up in an explosion on the Vryheid-Richards Bay line. In this instance the explosion was detonated by the front wheels of the locomotive. The undercarriage of the locomotive was damaged and five trucks of a long coal train were derailed. [Excerpts] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 May 81 p 1]

TRANSCAAL COLORED EDUCATION--The Transvaal Regional Coloured Education board yesterday called for the disbanding of the Department of Coloured Education and its replacement by a unified, non-racial, centralised system of education. The members of the board were responding to a circular from the department requesting them to review the powers and functions of the board. In a statement issued yesterday after a meeting of the board, which consists of prominent community leaders, it said the decision had been reached after a series of workshops and consultations with various educational institutions and in view of the schools boycott last year and the current unrest among both students and teachers. The statement said no matter how many changes were effected to the system of Coloured education they would be superficial and ineffective as long as they occurred within the framework of "separate education."--Sapa [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 May 81 p 8]

MUSLIM MEETING--An estimated 15 000 Muslims gathered in Lenasia, Johannesburg, over the past four days in what is believed to be the largest Islamic get-together in the Transvaal. Participants came from all parts of South Africa and from abroad. The gathering--Ijthima--is held annually in different centres. Some Muslims have criticised the event, saying it was a waste of time and money. But participants felt it served an essential function in their rededication to Islam. Sermons and passages from the Quran were read, and many volunteers pledged to undertake tours of up to four months overseas to spread the message of Islam. Several huge tents were erected to house and feed the participants. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 21 Apr 81 p 5]

ROBBEN ISLAND RELEASE--Gaborone--A Botswana national and member of the banned South African Communist Party, Mr Michael Dingake, has been released from Robben Island after 15 years' imprisonment.--Sapa [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 May 81 p 7]

REFUSAL OF PASSPORT--A priest from Kagiso, Krugersdorp, yesterday disclosed that his application for a passport to further his studies overseas had been rejected. The Apostolic Faith Mission minister, Mr Frank Chikane (30), received the news when he went to collect his passport at the commissioner's office in Johannesburg yesterday. This is the second time Mr Chikane has been refused a passport to study abroad. Last year he was among the 144 young people who were to go on a study tour in Israel, but he did not get his passport. Mr Chikane is active in local politics and has been detained three times since 1977. At one time he was detained for more than 200 days under the Terrorism Act. He was due to leave before the end of this month to study a course in Social Development with a Canadian University. The course was to have lasted six months. [Excerpts] [Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 29 Apr 81 p 2]

BLACK HOUSING PROJECT--Cape Town--The approval of a 60-year leasehold system for Blacks in the Western Cape would create a limited housing market among Blacks in Cape Town for the first time, the regional director of the Urban Foundation, Mr Colin Appleton, said yesterday. Mr Appleton said formal approval had been granted to register a utility company to develop housing for Blacks. The company, known as Uluntu, will have 15 directors--eight from the local Black community. There will be an initial capital injection of R7,5-million provided by the private sector. The Government has empowered the local Community Council and the Western Cape Administration Board to enter into 30-year leasehold agreements--renewable for a further 30 years--with Uluntu, which will develop, subdivide, put in services and then sub-let individual erven to tenants.--Sapa [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 May 81 p 3]

REFUSAL OF MANDELA INTERVIEW--The Commissioner of Prisons has refused THE VOICE permission to interview Robben Island life prisoner, Mr Nelson Mandela. The interview had been requested by the editor some time in February, and was later told that this was being considered. This week, however, the editor received a letter from the Commissioner turning the request down after "thorough consideration." In the request, the editor had suggested to the Commissioner of Prisons that a published interview with Mr Mandela could help clarify certain points about the prisoner, and of the now outlawed African National Congress, of which he was national president. The editor also expressed the view that Mr Mandela, still regarded as the national leader by most Black South Africans, had the ability of bringing about a peaceful change in South Africa. And, also bring about an end to the war on the South African borders. Meanwhile, it is reported from Umtata in the Transkei that the Mantanzima Government has also requested the South African Government to release Mandela to the Transkei. It is also understood that the Mantanzima Government has taken to prevent Mr Mandela from engaging in any political activity, they argue, could be detrimental to South Africa. Political observers, however, have expressed grave doubts that a man of Mr Mandela's stature would agree to be released on condition he is sent to the Transkei. [Excerpts] [Johannesburg THE VOICE OF THE VOICELESS in English 22-28 Apr 81 pp 1, 3]

CHURCH CRITICISM OF DUTCH--The official journal of the Ned Geref Kerk has made a strong attack on its Dutch "sister" church for "promising support" to the exiled African National Congress acting president, Mr Oliver Tambo. In its latest issue, Die Kerkbode said there were "big questions" about the Christian faith of people or churches who helped an organisation such as the ANC, which was trying to overthrow a system of government by violence. The journal reported a Dutch church news service as saying that Mr Tambo had recently met members of the moderation of the Reformed churches of the Netherlands. Die Kerkbode quoted the requests made of the church leaders by Mr Tambo. It also quoted the Dutch news service as saying that church leaders assured Mr Tambo that a church body would be asked seriously to consider giving financial support to the ANC. Die Kerkbode commented: "Here we have a black leader who has never made a secret of the fact that he is a committed communist meeting with church leaders." The journal then referred again to Mr Tambo's requests on behalf of "the communist-inspired ANC." "This already sounds strange enough," continued Die Kerkbode. "What is even stranger is that the church leaders promised support to him, well knowing that violence cannot be excluded." The journal said the Dutch must have known that the ANC was not "the innocent political organisation it purports to be" and referred to ANC's "deeds of terror." [Text] [Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 29 Apr 81 p 9]

MINE DEATHS--An explosion which killed 10 Black mine workers rocked the Newcastle Platberg Colliery mine outside Ladysmith on Wednesday afternoon. A flash ignition of methane gas is believed to have caused the explosion. The danger of gas has since been cleared and miners have returned to work with the first shift going down yesterday morning. Sapa reports that in another mine accident a mineworker was killed and six others were injured yesterday when an earth tremor hit the Hartebeesfontein Gold Mine. A spokesman for Anglo Vaal said the tremor had measured 3,5 on the Richter Scale and had caused a rock-fall in the no 4 Shaft area. [Excerpts] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 8 May 81 p 3]

DIAMOND TRADE WITH TAIWAN--The jewellery manufacturing industry in the Republic of China is seeking supplies of high-value stones directly from South Africa rather than from Japanese middlemen. An industry spokesman said local jewellery manufacturers were trying to make a breakthrough not only in processing raw materials, but also in obtaining first-hand materials. Direct contacts with South African sources could solve problems of material supply, the spokesman said.-- Sapa-CNA [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 May 81 p 21]

TOYOTA SHARE OF MARKET--Toyota forecast a total market penetration of 20 percent this year following the release of important statistics at their recent 20th anniversary celebrations. Estimating the South African motor industry's vehicle output this year at 400 000, Dr Alfred Wessels, Toyota South Africa's chairman, expressed every confidence in Toyota's ability to sell 80 000 of its own make in the increasingly competitive market. Claiming the first quarter of 1981 to be a consolidation of Toyota South Africa's role as this country's largest motor company, the group plans to maintain its competitiveness by spending R50-million over the next four years. Partly financed from retained profits, the expenditure is likely to help the group achieve its planned 15 percent of the total passenger vehicle market, and exceed its current 33,3 percent share of the commercial vehicle sector. Completely dominating the half-ton truck market, Dr Wessels said that Toyota is already enjoying the major 17 percent portion of total vehicle sales followed by Volkswagen at 15,3 percent and Ford with 13,6 percent. [Excerpts] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 May 81 p 18]

LOCAL PRODUCTION UNDERGROUND CABLE--The scheduled installation by African CABLES of a Schloemann continuous aluminium extrusion press will give the company the ability to meet the growing local demand for supertension cross-linked polyethylene (XLPE) underground cables--a demand that until now has had to be satisfied entirely by imports. Explaining the company's decision to install the new aluminium sheathing press, African Cables' general manager, Peter Muller, said that recent increased urban and industrial development and the electrification of black townships had increased the demand for high voltage electricity supplies. "Municipalities," he explained, "have found that they have had to cater for an ever increasing demand which can only be met by distribution at a higher voltage. Many of the larger municipalities now distribute power at 33kv and some have had to superimpose an 88 kv system on top of this." In South Africa, the traditional method of distribution of electricity has been by means of overhead lines, but environmental constraints and the increased difficulty in obtaining servitudes has meant that this increased demand has now frequently to be met by underground cables. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 4 May 81 p 23]

SOEKOR OIL DRILLHOLE--SOEKOR has completed its drill-hole F-A5, 90 km south of Mossel Bay with a final depth of 2 990 m. In a statement issued by the Southern Oil Exploration Corporation today it said the same gas carrying zones that appeared in the F-A2 drill-hole were present in this drill-hole although they were much thinner because F-A5 was drilled on the ridge of the sedimentary structure. Holes based on the F-A structure would continue to be drilled with the next hole to be drilled about 31 km north-east of F-A2. Sapa [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 6 May 81 p 3]

PROTECTION OF INSTALLATIONS--Durban--A crack commando unit trained in all types of firearms will be used to protect Durban municipal installations. This decision was taken as a matter of urgency by the Durban City Council late on Monday night after discussion with senior army and police officers. The matter arose from the terrorist attack on an electrical substation south of Durban last month which caused R2,5-million damage. The commando unit will be trained, uniformed and armed by the defence force and will be a volunteer body led by a municipal official. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 6 May 81 p 8]

CSO: 4420

TPDC ATTEMPTING TO ENSURE EQUITABLE FUEL DISTRIBUTION

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 24 Apr 81 p 3

[Article by Emma Farajil]

[Text] THE Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) is working hard to ensure an equitable distribution of fuel in the country, the TPDC General Manager, Ndugu Sylvester Barongo said yesterday in Dar es Salaam.

Speaking to the press, Ndugu Barongo said that the

corporation, which imports and distributes fuel in the country, manages to maintain a flow of fuel despite the fact that barely fifty per cent of its total expenditure requirements for this year were met by the government.

Ndugu Barongo was responding to a question on the effectiveness of the fuel conservation measures.

You cannot talk of how

much we have saved through fuel conservation measures since we started off with limited fuel supply, said Ndugu Barongo.

Measures set out in August 1979 to ration petrol and control the sale of fuel between 9 p.m. Thursday upto Monday mornings, proved that by January 1980 consumption had fallen by 11.4 per cent.

CSO: 4420/993

CRITICAL WATER SHORTAGE AFFECTING ZANZIBAR CITY NOW OVER

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 24 apr 81 p 3

[Text]

THE critical water shortage which hit Zanzibar town during the past three weeks is now over following the rehabilitation of two water pumps serving the town. The pumps broke down early this month.

Zanzibar's Director for Water Development, Ndugu Nassoro Habi said yesterday that repair work on the pumping set was complete over the weekend.

The two water pumps at Mwembe Mchomeke near Zanzibar town with a combined capacity of 720,000 gallons a day, broke down during the first week of April, thereby cutting by almost half the town's water supply which is two million gallons a day.

Areas which were hit hard by the shortage are Michenani, Shangani and Malindi.

Meanwhile, a new water pumping machine with a capacity of 300,000 gallons a day to supplement the existing capacity is to be commissioned early next month.

CSQ: 4420/993

WAZO HILL ASBESTOS PLANT STARTS TRIAL PRODUCTION

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 23 Apr 81 p 3

[Text]

THE asbestos factory at Wazo Hill in Dar es Salaam, has started trial production, and is expected to go into regular production soon.

The factory, which is part of Aluminium Africa's expansion will produce five thousand tons of asbestos cement sheets when in full production.

According to an official of Aluminium Africa, the major raw materials for the asbestos sheets production will be cement and asbestos fibre.

He said cement will be obtained from the Wazo Hill cement factory. The asbestos fibre to last until December 1981 has already been imported from Canada.

The official added that Aluminium Africa was negotiating with Zimbabwe producers of asbestos fibre through respective ministries to import the material from that country.

The factory machinery whose cost is estimated to be between 25 and 30 million/- has been supplied by MS. Hyderabad Asbestos Cement Products Limited of India. Engineers are already in the country to man the trial production.

With the commissioning of the plant said the official, the country would save about 25 million/- per year.

The factory will employ about 110 workers who will be operating on the shifts.

Aluminium Africa, a member of the National Development Corporation group of companies, was able to put up the factory through a 4.6 million/- loan from the Tanganyika Development Finance Company and another loan of 6 million/- from the Tanzania Investment Bank. The rest of the money was raised by the Government.

CSO: 4420/993

ADMINISTRATION CURBS LABOR EMIGRATION

London WEST AFRICA in English 6 Apr 81 pp 734-735

[Text] THE NEWS of the death in detention of 46 Ghanaians in an overcrowded Abidjan police cell appeared in the Voltaïque press on March 11; that same evening Saye Zerbo issued an emergency decree on migration banning all Voltaïques from leaving the country in search of work until national agreements have been signed with the countries concerned and reception centres established for the Voltaïque workers.

The news of the deaths had a great impact in Upper Volta and was broadcast on the radio in five local languages. The official estimate for the number of Voltaïques in Ivory Coast is around 700,000, but most observers would put the figure at more than 1m., but whatever the exact figure, the Voltaïques certainly constitute the largest foreign community in Ivory Coast. The real question, then, is how long will it take Houphouët-Boigny to respond to Zerbo's challenge, and how much of an impact will this lack of earnings make on Upper Volta in the meantime?

Foreign workers, although essential to the Ivorian economy, have never been well treated in that country. Clerical workers rioted in Abidjan as far back as 1958 because of lack of employment, but directed their frustration at Dahomeyan and Togolese clerks who had migrated from their own economically less developed areas of the French West African Empire. In the late sixties, too, large numbers of old and handicapped Voltaïques who had spent many working years in the Ivory Coast were unceremoniously thrown out of the country, a move which created tension for many months.

A group of Voltaïque workers were interviewed in Abidjan following the recent Ghanaian deaths: "Too many policemen mistreat us because we are foreigners. They rough us up every time they arrest us even if our papers are in order. Let us hope that these Ghanaians did not die in vain and that President Houphouët-Boigny will finally become aware of this problem."

Just one month after the military ousted the Lamizana government last November, almost 200 Voltaïque workers were summarily expelled from Saudi Arabia under circumstances which have never been properly explained. The Voltaïque Comité Militaire de Renforcement pour le Progrès National claims to have been working on this new decree for several weeks before the deaths, through the Commission Nationale Permanente pour les Problèmes de Migration. However, even if the new measures were not prompted by the deaths in Abidjan, they were nonetheless published by the emergency procedure on the day the deaths were announced here.

The new decree begins: "While waiting for the setting up of structures, agreements and conventions permitting an improvement in the working, visiting and living conditions of Voltaïque nationals abroad, emigration in order to seek employment abroad is surrendered until further notice." Voltaïques seeking to leave the country for other reasons will henceforth have to obtain a *laisser-passer* from the sous-préfecture; anybody trying to break this new decree risks imprisonment of up to one year and a fine up to 100,000 CFA francs.

The new immigration programme brought in Zairians and others for whom there are no provisions. General Lamizana came to grips in 1980 by neighbouring Niger in a series of visits of solidarity along with vaccination certificates and the immigration will only be asked to show Nigerians with a residence permit for the month to which they are going. Only those aged between 18 and 60 are eligible for a labour permit. The Sûreté Nationale in Niamey has admitted that the number of clandestine immigrants far surpasses those who are authorised.

Economic impact

It is clear that the impact on Upper Volta's economy and on its rural life will be significant if the pace of migration continues. Every compound in Upper Volta is in some way involved in the cash economy: even if only to pay their taxes. But in those areas where it is difficult to grow surplus food crops which can be sold, it is cash crops such as cotton, the main source of cash income, that has to be grown. In Upper Volta, rural employment is so scarce that men are left with no option but to travel to the richer regions south and east seasonally or for periods of years. Most of the cotton and coffee farms and the towns of Ivory Coast. In many parts of Upper Volta a young man is not considered as adult until he has made the journey to Abidjan and if he wishes to marry, he is often obliged to go south to earn enough to pay the brideprice. Many towns grow cotton for export, but with relatively little surplus for the local community. Under the coordination of a local Ministry of Agriculture, the Government has been organising a series of small villages in Upper Volta, Koudougou, Ouagadougou, Niamey, etc. The Government has set up a series of P.A. (Petites Associations) which are small co-operatives of 10-20 people. These co-operatives are working in the Ivory Coast and have much more success than the larger ones. The Government has set up a series of P.A. (Petites Associations) which are small co-operatives of 10-20 people. These co-operatives are working in the Ivory Coast and have much more success than the larger ones.

As the population of the Ivory Coast continues to grow, the impact of the migration will be even more significant. The Government has set up a series of P.A. (Petites Associations) which are small co-operatives of 10-20 people. These co-operatives are working in the Ivory Coast and have much more success than the larger ones.

aimed at making it worthwhile for young men to stay in their village during the dry season, either through projects requiring a large labour force or through the introduction of income generating activities such as market gardening.

At least two trains leave Ouagadougou daily for Abidjan. Normally solidly packed, the trains have been empty since Colonel Saye Zerbo's announcement, and the railway company, RAN, has announced that it will start withdrawing certain trains until further notice.

Well over half of those who emigrate from Upper Volta are Mossi, and must go south to Ivory Coast. The movement has a long history and it has often caused stress in relations between Ouagadougou and Abidjan. For Ivorians, immigrant labour, which represents well over a quarter of the labour force in Ivory Coast, has been a cornerstone of economic growth.

In the fifties a recruitment organisation, the Syndicat Interprofessionnel d'Acheminement de la Main d'Oeuvre, SIAMO, officially brought in over 200,000 Voltaiques into Ivory Coast. Their activities were prohibited by Upper Volta in 1960, at independence. Since then there have been attempts to impose some legal arrangement which would be suitable to both sides. President Houphouët-Boigny, in the late sixties, suggested a double nationality agreement, which was rejected by Upper Volta. Later the Voltaiques sought an agreement which would make remittances from earnings by Voltaiques pass through official channels. The remittances have in the past represented up to 10 per cent of Upper Volta's foreign exchange earnings. This suggestion was duly rejected by Ivory Coast.

There is also a hint in Colonel Saye Zerbo's statement concerning the need for an agreement with other countries of a serious challenge to Ivory Coast. Statistical data from Ivory Coast on this issue are hard to come by. It is, however, accepted that immigrant workers in Ivory Coast have provided a source of cheap labour which has been welcomed and has proved crucial in some sectors of industry and in rural areas where it is difficult to tell exactly how much the Voltaique labourer receives net after paying his dues from a salary that is not very carefully controlled and which has tended to be kept fairly low. It is because immigrants play such an important role in the Ivorian economy that the government in Ivory Coast has always sought to play down any signs of ethnic animosity, of which there have been outbreaks on several occasions since independence. (Continued on page 10)

PM SAYS WORKERS WILL SHARE INDUSTRY PROFITS

ZIMBABWE HERALD

Salisbury THE HERALD is published 2 May 61 pp 12 2, 6

[Article by Gilbert Masarik]

[Text]

THE Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, announced yesterday that the Government planned to have a say in the running of major industries and also wanted the introduction of an annual profit-sharing system between workers and employers.

Workers must, through their representatives, be told the exact profits made by the concerns they work for, and, together with management, determine how these should be shared after paying operational costs, he said.

"I am saying that is where we are coming and if it is what is called communism then forward with communism. Mr Mugabe told thousands of workers at a May Day rally at Safari Stadium. The Government wanted to check the existing situation where, after sweating all year round, workers were given pitiable salary increments, while company managers and managing directors awarded themselves high salaries.

"We will want to see the profits each year. We will want to know how much will be paid for electricity, water and other expenses and then see how we can share the profits. We cannot continue to be exploited," he said.

After political independence the next step is the attainment of economic independence. "This is what we are saying our wealth must be in our hands," he said, the cheering crowd.

Mr Mugabe quoted Karl Marx on the importance of workers in production and said they must be given the highest place and respect by their employers because without them, there could be no progress and therefore no wealth.

"Their supremacy must be shown because without them, mines, farms and industry will fail and Government cannot operate."

"The worker must be given enough money, respect, a strong voice — and his money must rise as the company makes profits."

He must be represented at management level. He must know the company's profits so that he and management can determine together what share he should be given. These are some of our thoughts on workers," said Mr Mugabe.

On State interest in industry, Mr Mugabe singled out mining as one of the areas the Government was looking at.

At the moment the Government relies on papers given by mining companies to know the quantity of minerals mined, the amounts accrued from sales and where they have been sold.

"This is not good enough. We want to be there to see whether it is true that the copper has been mined. We want to be inside the business."

There was a danger that some local mining companies with external headquarters were cheating on the sale of minerals.

"This was more damaging to the country when it was considered that when minerals were sold, they never came back or grow again," Mr Mugabe said.

He stated pro-independence RF propaganda that if ZANU (PF) won the elections, he would order the seizure of people's goats, chickens, cattle and homes.

...that we were among
...that we would put
...the country's wealth in
...our hands so that you,
...your children, your guests,
...mills and chickens—can
...be able to feed well," he
...said amid laughter.

Mr Mugabe called on
...workers to unite and work
...hard and stand against
...bullying and strikes.

He was aware that
...just having come out of
...colonialism, they were
...still dealing with anger
...and that they were still
...being treated and vic-
...timized by their em-
...ployers. But they must
...give the Government a
...chance to assess their
...problems.

There is no need to
...lose through exploitation.
...If you have problems, re-
...port to us. If there is any

white who continues to
...tell you to go to 'your
...Mugabe or Kanga' come
...and tell us and he will
...be out before sunset.

"We cannot succeed if
...we are lazy and drunk at
...work. We shall be tough
...with loafers and drunks.
...You need money — fine,
...but you must also look
...after your job so that
...you can look after your
...family."

The co-optation into Gov-
...ernment of people from
...ZAPU and the white com-
...munity was for the sake
...of unity as it would not
...have been in the national
...interest to be recrimina-
...tory after independence
...had been achieved.

Officials of the Zim-
...babwe Congress of Trade
...Unions expressed disap-
...pointment at the poor at-
...tendance at the Workers
...Day rally in Bulawayo.

About 500 people turned
...up at the White City
...Stadium. The planned
...march from the Makokoba
...bus station to the stadium
...attracted about 15 people,
...according to a policeman
...stationed at the stadium.

A rally at Low Mine
...near Tlo, Vuyo was at-
...tended by about 300
...people.

A delegation from the
...ZCTU, led by Mr M.
...Dora, held discussions
...with the workers on the
...meaning of May Day and
...listened to grievances.

Workers' Day was
...celebrated in Gwelo with
...a ZCTU rally in the
...Monomotapa grounds
...which officials said was
...attended by about 3,500
...people.

It was addressed by Mr
...Jehmuel Ndzwe, the
...deputy secretary-general,
...and was visited by the
...Mayor of Gwelo, Coun-
...cillor Patrick Kombayi.

WORKERS HAVE A Vital Role—KANGA

...the country's wealth in our hands so that you, your children, your guests, mills and chickens—can be able to feed well," he said amid laughter.

[Text]

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...our hands so that you,
...your children, your guests,
...mills and chickens—can
...be able to feed well," he
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...and that they were still
...being treated and vic-
...timized by their em-
...ployers. But they must
...give the Government a
...chance to assess their
...problems.

There is no need to
...lose through exploitation.
...If you have problems, re-
...port to us. If there is any

The Minister who
...outlined Zimbabwe's
...achievements since inde-
...pendence said workers
...were the vanguard of the
...new economic battle to
...eliminate poverty and im-
...prove the lot of the
...workers — particularly in
...rural areas.

The Government's aim
...was to have workers
...committees in every
...working place because
...these committees were the
...vehicles of industrial har-
...mony and understanding.

Employers must re-
...move salary scales based
...on racial discrimination
...and should not use
...abusive language when
...addressing their em-
...ployees, the Minister said.

The derogatory descrip-
...tion of workers as "bovs
...or pikinins" must stop
...immediately, he said.

Some employers, he
...charged were still living
...in Rhodesia. They have
...not even reached the so-
...called Zimbabwe-Rho-
...desia.

Manyika Given Duty to Fight Exploitation

Mailbury THE HERALD 15 May 1981 2 MAY 81 p. 7

[Text] BULAWAYO.

WORKERS must unite to effectively get rid of exploitation in industry, the Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Services, Mr Robert Manyika, told a Workers Day rally in Bulawayo.

He said investigations by Government Ministers, labour and industrial relations officials, together with reports from workers, had revealed exploitation of workers in some industries.

The Minister said workers should not be exploited

because they were a productive force without whom industry would grind to a halt.

I appeal to Zimbabwe-based companies to realise that workers are the productive force in which the economy is dependent,' he said.

Mr Manyika announced that the Industrial Conciliation Act was currently being amended because 'that which brings suppression of the people must be removed'.

He added that there would be no flexibility in amending the Act.

But the Minister also warned that discipline must come 'from all directions'.

He said this must be maintained by all if the economy was to grow.

If we all maintain discipline no one will laugh at us on account of our inability to produce enough food for ourselves.

Let us move forward in unity and in understanding. Let us have a hard-fought approach towards the solution of the workers' problems,' he said.

THE HERALD 15 MAY 1981

Mailbury THE HERALD 15 May 1981 2 MAY 81 p. 7

[Editorial]

[Text]

ONE of the Government's major efforts is directed towards giving the workers a square deal. This is no less than they deserve.

It is essential that when workers are employed they know the terms and conditions that apply — their rates of pay, hours of work and overtime, holiday and leave, sick benefits, and so on. They must know they are not being exploited.

But the changes and the improvements that are coming about cannot be one-sided. The workers must respond by giving of their best.

This point has been made by Cabinet Ministers and others, and what they have to say must be listened to and acted upon.

There must be a willing partnership between workers, workers committees, trade unions, individual employers and employers organisations; a partnership to which all contribute, and from which all benefit.

There will inevitably be many rules and regulations designed to protect one side or the other. But within this legal framework there must exist a ready spirit of give and take, an appreciation that each individual is different and that not all can be treated alike.

If a happy, efficient workforce and competent management understand each other, Zimbabwe will have the firmest of foundations on which to build an enviable future.

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Abstract

1944. Minister of Finance. Senator Eboi Nkala, yesterday strongly warned civil servants, especially chiefs and district commissioners, against engaging in active party politics.

He told a rally in Benbridge, attended by more than 6,000 people: "I think we Government employees and should therefore remove themselves from taking an active role in party politics, especially when they associate themselves with subversive activities."

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It was contrary to
international law for
the United States to support the
same Government that
they received assistance
from.

By the same token, and dis-
tinctly, the same arguments are
valid in the case of the
and it is therefore in-
valuable that their support
the Government. and
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He signed the
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This Government will not tolerate any such civil servants because they are enemies of the people. They should realise that they earn their living from taxes paid by people, so they cannot afford to be enemies of their masters.

The Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Richard Hove, said the ruling Government had instituted a "new era" of a "green revolution".

He told them that the next meeting would take place in four weeks' time.

"It is therefore necessary that everybody gets involved in working very

hard and trying to improve their own living standards rather than engage in fruitless party conflicts.

Mr. Howe said that when the country was liberated it had not been liberated for any particular tribe or any particular race, but for everybody.

"Some people still regard Americans' development on a tribal basis. We should 'assimilate the modern nation' that we had during the war into reality and form a prosperous nation," said Mr. Hase.

REPORTAGE ON ZIMBABWE'S TRADE FAIR

President Impressed

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 2 May 81 pp 1, 1

(Excerpt)

BULAWAYO.

ZIMBABWE International Trade Fair has done more to promote the country and establish trade in two weeks than the setting up of diplomatic missions and relations since independence, the Prime Minister, Mr. Mugabe, said yesterday.

After a short tour of the fair in Bulawayo before flying back to Salisbury he said he was most impressed with the exhibition and hoped for more participation next year.

"I think this year's fair has been really fantastic," he said. "I was impressed last year although foreign participation was limited to a few countries."

"This year we have four times as many international exhibits and for a country newly independent and wanting to make an impression we regard the participation by 38 countries as an acceptance of Zimbabwe into the international community and something to be proud of."

He said the Government wanted Trade Fair to continue developing and

build on existing international relations to boost the economy and encourage investment.

"We want to work for the establishment of Zimbabwe as an economically viable country with trade and cooperation from other countries."

"I think this fair has done a lot to promote us. It has done much more for us in a period of two weeks than our diplomatic missions and relations."

Mr. Mugabe who toured the fair with his wife Sally for two hours, drew large crowds of on-lookers wherever he went.

Among gifts Mr. Mugabe and his wife received were a book on Fungi and a tapestry from the Mozambican delegation and a vase and silk material from the Koreans.

● Crowds poured into the Trade Fair yesterday at such a rate that by 11 a.m. 19,000 had slipped through the turnstiles — twice as many as on any previous morning.

The rush of visitors brought the total attendance to this year's fair to 57,144 at 1 p.m.

"That means by close of business today we will be well over the 100,000 visitors we had at that stage last year," said Trade Fair general manager Mr. Graham Rowe.

JOHANNESBURG TRADE FAIR TOP LAST YEAR'S

SALES OF THE FAIR IN 1961 WERE 7 PER CENT UP

(Text)

GULLAWAY

ORDERS received by exhibitors at the Trade Fair are expected to be far in excess of the amount of business done last year, the chairman of the fair, Mr Gordon Handover, said yesterday.

"Last year the fair did about 50 million worth of business and, though I won't have any real idea of volume or value of business here until the end of the show on Sunday, I'm confident that orders this year will be worth much more."

Mr Handover described the fair so far as a great

success. It was the biggest and best trade fair the country has ever seen and on a par with all other trade fairs in Africa, including the Rand Easter Show in South Africa.

"I think we have established that this is not only a truly international show, but also a true Trade Fair."

"The fair should really take off from here — up till now it's been gathering flying speed so to speak and there should be no holding it back."

He said both international and local exhibitors had been very satisfied with business at the show. Foreign exhibitors were particularly pleased with the potential of business in Zimbabwe and the number of contacts made.

"I hope all the exhibitors at the fair this year come back again. We have already had inquiries from another two or three countries not at this year's show, who want to participate next year and, if all goes well, we should have set 25 foreign countries next year, but more than 30."

TRADE FAIR SHOW TOPS LAST YEAR'S

SALES OF THE FAIR IN 1961 WERE 7 PER CENT UP

(Text)

AS Central Africa became more prosperous, and the world came out of its depression, more people would come from overseas to buy and sell in Zimbabwe, Mr Reg Sampson, president of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries, said at the Trade Fair yesterday.

The fair was colourful and bustling, with an abundance of exhibits of modern technology, which the country had lacked for so long, he said. Credit was due to the organisers, and the fair must not be allowed to lapse.

It is unfortunate that some foreign exhibitors who are a little disappointed. They have been here for a long time and are short of foreign exchange and import permits are hard to get.

But we hope this is only temporary. As far as our own exports are concerned, we must never lose sight of the fact that if we want to sell in an export market, we have to go to that market and show our wares.

"There are golden opportunities for people to exhibit abroad. West Germany, for example, has invited our manufacturers and exporters to take up stands at the Hanover, Hamburg and Berlin fairs."

He said there had been some talk of a "trade stalemate" at the fair.

"There is no reason why we shouldn't concentrate on benefiting our products and sell them to the European community. They are our biggest trading partners."

"High wages could make us less competitive, and this is something we will have to watch," he said.

Mr Sampson said the CZI executive would be meeting Mr Enos Nkala, the Minister of Finance, soon to discuss export incentives.

"We expect him to support us on this. After all, an export incentive is only subsidisation of foreign currency that is earned and is well worth spending in that way with local currency," he said.

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 4 May 81 pp 1, 4

[Text]

BULAWAYO.

ZIMBABWE International Trade Fair has been a resounding success, both in terms of business and future prospects, the General Manager of the Fair, Mr Graham Rowe, said yesterday.

Speaking before the closing ceremony of the Fair, at which the Mayor of Bulawayo, Councillor Mike Constandinos, officiated, Mr Rowe said response to the 10-day event had been "fantastic".

From the exhibitors' point of view, the buyers, and from our own in terms of paying visitors, the Fair has exceeded our expectations.

I have no firm idea of the value of business done in the past few days but it must run into several millions and be far above last year's figure.

He said that most foreign buyers had been very satisfied with business done and particularly with the amount of good local contacts made for possible future deals.

Zimbabwe firms had concluded a considerable number of business deals, especially with African

Orders for Zimbabwe products had ranged from raw minerals and agricultural goods to fully manufactured items, particularly foodstuffs.

The Fair has been a great success and will be improved upon even more next year, said Mr Rowe.

What is particularly exciting is that our concept of the Fair becoming a regional centre for trading is echoed by the foreign exhibitors.

Many have been enormously complimentary about the Fair and feel that it's definitely the place for a regional show incorporating all the Central African states.

"They've praised both the facilities and the organisation and we feel confident that it will become the showpiece of the region."

The majority of foreign exhibitors were making arrangements to take part in the next Fair and several new exhibitors could be expected, he said.

Among the countries making plans to participate was China which had sent the Fair a letter at the start of the show expressing regret at its absence.

BIGGER DISPLAYS

"Several others are also expected to exhibit in 1982, but it's too early at this stage to reveal their names."

Mr Rowe said many countries which exhibited this year planned to increase the size of their displays for 1982.

"They want to exhibit on a larger scale next year and in some cases bring in more machinery and products for buyers to view."

The mere fact that they want more space and want to have more products and less posters on display is I think a fair indication of the regard they have for the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair and the success they have enjoyed so far.

"Because of the space they will require, we are going to have to continue making improvements to our facilities and introduce a lot more under-cover areas for exhibits."

Mr Rowe said plans were also being made to investigate the possibilities of a foreign currency allocation being provided for the 1981 Fair.

A practice common at many other trade fairs throughout the world was the allocation of foreign currency which would facilitate "on-the-spot" deals with foreign companies which bring goods out for display, and would be a big draw-card for exhibitors.

Other moves being considered by the Fair Society include the allocation of more time for traders to visit the displays without public visitors, either by setting aside more weekdays as traders' days, or by allowing traders to visit the Fair during the mornings with the public being admitted in the afternoons.

Suggestions on improving the Fair made by EEC countries, all highly experienced in such matters, include shortening the time pavilions and stands stay open, and reducing the duration of the Fair.

The suggestions will be discussed shortly by the Fair Society. What has already been decided is that the Fair will be closed one day earlier next year.

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Salisbury THE HERALD 10 August 1984 41 p 4

(Editorial)

[Text]

THE Zimbabwe International Trade Fair, which ended yesterday, has been an outstanding success. Of that there can be no doubt. All concerned deserve the heartiest congratulations.

The Prime Minister himself set the seal of approval on the fair, describing it as fantastic.

As Mr Mugabe said, it has achieved much for the country in a very short time. Even in the face of currency problems the amount of business done at the fair is expected to be well in excess of the \$6 million worth done last year.

But the true value of the fair cannot be based on the amount of business done alone.

It has given foreign VIPs and businessmen the opportunity to see not only what Zimbabwe makes but what the country itself is like. It must have done much to counter the unfavourable publicity of *Kotumbane*. Here we have a nation poised for dynamic development, with an atmosphere of business and bustle, not bombs and bullets.

In other words, our visitors have seen the real Zimbabwe. This should provide a powerful stimulus to both trade and investment in the months and years to come.

But there must be no let up in our efforts to improve both the fair and our external trade.

It is good that the Government has already approved a plan to use the fair site for a series of specialised exhibitions designed to promote trade in Central and Southern Africa. Let us hope there will be some positive developments here soon.

Let us hope, too, that the fair itself can be developed into a regional fair taking on the tenorities of Central and sub-Saharan Africa.

The idea was floated last year by the chairman of the Trade Fair, Mr Gordon Handover. It must not be allowed to sink through inertia. If the momentum we have now developed is to be maintained and increased we must think big.

MINIMUM WAGE TOO LOW, SAYS UNION OFFICIAL

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 2 May 81 p 3

[Article by Herald Correspondent, Bulawayo]

[Text]

INDUSTRIAL workers are not satisfied with the minimum wage of \$83.

They want a minimum income that will go beyond the \$177 suggested by the unions in 1977, ZCTU assistant secretary-general, Mr Mkuishi Khumalo said here yesterday.

Mr Khumalo said, however, his union was waiting for the result of the Riddell Commission.

"If it proposes anything less than \$145 a month under the present circumstances we shall be dissatisfied."

He also said there must be a better treatment of workers as well as according facilities to all workers regardless of race.

The chairman of the Bulawayo Municipal Workers Union, Mr B. Velempini, called for price control on commodities. He said it was futile to accord workers 100 percent wage increases and allow dealers to institute 150 percent price increases on goods.

Mr Velempini said Government must concentrate on abolishing the outflow of capital from Zimbabwe rather than abolishing "shebeens where people go voluntarily".

A higher minimum wage legislation was needed. The Government must not be intimidated by threats of massive lay-offs. Neither must it be fooled by allegations of lack of skills among the workers, he said.

Mr Velempini said by and large industries were being run by workers while their bosses "kept their hands on their hips".

Warning the multinational corporations, Mr Velempini said they must not be allowed to continue to exploit developing countries.

He said power must be effectively transferred to the masses rather than to a group of elites. The wage gap between the masses and the elites was unacceptably high, he said.

CSO: 4420/1003

PM PROMISES CRACKDOWN ON PRICES

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 2 May 81 p 1

[Text]

THE Government is to acquire powers to regulate prices in an effort to check "thieving" businessmen charging people exorbitant prices, the Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, said yesterday.

The controls would initially be on essential commodities and would later cover items such as clothes, Mr Mugabe said when he addressed workers at a Labour Day rally at Rufaro Stadium.

Mr Mugabe also said there were "many good things" in store for workers following the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry into Incomes and Prices Policy which he had already received.

He specifically accused butcheries of profiteering, charging that some of them made 100 percent profits on meat they bought from farmers or the Cold Storage Board.

"The Government will look at the wages of the worker as well as prices he is charged because at the moment there are a lot of thieving businessmen stealing workers' salaries by over-charging.

"You are being cheated on meat particularly. The Government will look at meat prices with a view to making them com-

fortable for workers and their families," Mr Mugabe told the crowd.

The Ministry of Information will next week launch an education programme teaching people how to guard against being cheated by butchers when buying meat.

He said the Government wanted to satisfy two groups in the meat business — the cattle breeder, who should be given good producer prices and the consumer who should be charged reasonably.

"But we say no to the middleman—the butcher—who, just because he has bought fridges, axes and saws, he wants to hike the price of meat. We want meat to be cheaper for the people, the middleman will not have it easy."

"I am not saying we are closing down butcheries because we need them. But we would like you to form people's consumer co-operatives with a little profit margin to pay workers running them and other expenses.

"At the moment butchers are making as much as 100 percent profit and we are saying no to this," he said.

Government was also considering extending free education beyond primary school and extending free health services to those earning above \$150.

CSO: 4420/1003

BRIEFS

HEALERS FORM RIVAL BODY--The heads of nine herbalist associations have formed a new organisation in opposition to the Government-recognised Zimbabwe National Traditional Healers' Association, Zinatha. The new association, the Group of True Spirit Mediums and True Nganga Associations of Zimbabwe, claims that Zinatha does not represent the real interests of ngangas and spirit mediums. The Dean of the Faculty of Social Studies at the University of Zimbabwe and head of Zinatha, Professor Gordon Chavunduka, commented that the members of the board of the new organisation had stood for election for Zinatha's congress last year and "lost very badly". He added: "They stand no chance of gaining any support." ABOVE: The chairman of the new nganga association, Mr Macheka Gombera (top left), vice-chairman Mr Kenneth Ntopa, chairwoman Mrs Vanencia Zimonde (bottom left) and Mrs Edith Nyamaya, vice-chairwoman. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 2 May 81 p 7]

CENSUS SET FOR 1982--A population census will be launched next year, the Secretary for Economic Planning and Development, Mr Thomas Mswaka, announced in an interview this week. He added that his Ministry, which contains the Central Statistical Office, was to create "a population study division", and already had the approval of the Treasury and the Public Service. Mr Mswaka said "the nucleus of the population section will be the body which will start with the implementation of the census". The last census was held in 1969. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 2 May 81 p 7]

MERCHANT NAVY--Zimbabwe can set up its own merchant navy, based in Beira, a Norwegian expert believes. He is a prominent banker and Africa area manager of the Export Council of Norway, Mr Alf Viskedal, who visited Zimbabwe as an observer to the International Trade Fair in Pulwano. "Switzerland, without its own coast, has had a merchant navy for some time now," Mr Viskedal said. He said for Zimbabwe to follow the trend, Government or private investors should consider buying or hiring ships if it meant that prices on export and import goods would be reduced. "It is most definitely a matter for consideration," he said. Mr Viskedal was sure that such a programme was feasible in the long term. He said there would be interest in Norway in setting up a joint venture with Zimbabwe. "The Government of Zimbabwe and prospective investors should do a cost study. I am sure it would in the end be a better way of dispatching local products to overseas markets and collecting import goods. Norway already has joint shipping ventures with Egypt and Saudi Arabia to help build up their merchant navies." It would be most convenient for Zimbabwe to use Beira instead of South African ports, he said. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 2 May 81 p 3]

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